

Hafa Adai!

Shortage of contractors and materials hinder rebuilding. » PAGE 2

SBA disaster assistance loans top \$5M. » PAGE 5

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THE CNMI'S
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75¢

POLE BY POLE

A crew from Guam Power Authority assists the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. in installing transformer connections and other parts at one of many newly erected power poles along Beach Road, Garapan. Some areas of the island already have electric power but many others are still in the dark. Hundreds of power poles were toppled by Typhoon Soudelor when it pummeled the island last Aug. 2.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Sablan: Budget by Tuesday

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The lawmakers leading negotiations for a fiscal year 2016 budget had some homework over the weekend, as they agreed to aim for a compromise draft of a budget bill by tomorrow, Tuesday.

Senators and House representatives on the budget conference committee will resume talks this morning against a deadline that

is some 10 days away. The lawmakers must agree on a budget in time for Gov. Eloy S. Inos' signature to avoid a partial gov-

» Lawmakers put \$4.2 million on negotiating table

ernment shutdown. "The conferees, chairman [Sen. Jude Hofsneider, Senate budget chair] and myself are giving ourselves basically through the weekend and up to Tuesday to work on an agreement," said Rep. Antonio Sablan (Ind-Saipan), conference chairman and House Ways and Means Committee chair, in an interview in his office on Friday.

See BUDGET on Page 4

Star Marianas cut hours, lays off staff

Effective Friday last week, Star Marianas Air reduced its normal operating hours between Tinian and Saipan to between 6:30am and 6:30pm seven days per week, citing the imminent closure of the Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino as the reason

for the reduced hours.

Also last week, the airline let go of about 10 percent of its staff on Tinian, with more to be retrenched in the coming days.

According to Star Marianas president Shaun R. Christian, the anticipated closure of the Ti-

nian Dynasty has substantially reduced the number of travelers between the islands of Saipan and Tinian and, "with hopes of a solution that would encourage the hotel to stay open quickly fading, these actions have become necessary to keep our operation viable."

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INSIDE

LOCAL

Anheuser-Busch is providing 4,312 cases of emergency drinking water for Saipan. » PAGE 6

LOCAL

Saipan World Resort donates \$30,000 for the disaster recovery efforts on Saipan. » PAGE 7

LOCAL

Kinpachi Restaurant raises about \$2,867 for the Community Outreach Recovery Efforts. » PAGE 9



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Tourism Topics

A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority
Tourism is everybody's business.

Saipan
Tinian
Rota

HAFA ADAI & TIROW WIZZ

Local

Shortage of contractors and materials hinder rebuilding

By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

"That's not really helpful in these times when people need help," Deleon Guerrero said.

3,000 homes affected

The American Red Cross NMI Chapter tallied almost 3,000 houses that were affected by Typhoon Soudelor.

According to Weston Thomas Deleon Guerrero, acting building safety officer of the Department of Public Works, these are among the issues they now face with regards to construction and rebuilding.

"Although they are getting FEMA money, maybe some of them are getting SBA money, not all of that is really helping out with the shortage of manpower that we have here as far as contractors and people who actually know how to build a house," Deleon Guerrero said.

There is also a shortage of construction materials such as corrugated galvanized tin and wood stick frame, among others.

"There's a shortage of those materials on island. We don't have many. A lot of the warehouse and construction stores are running out. There's just a really huge demand," Deleon Guerrero said in a recent meeting with the CNMI: CARE, the group formed to focus on long-term recovery efforts on Saipan.

"The demand is high for contractors. They're starting to raise their prices a little bit," he added.

Before Soudelor, contractors charge \$60 to \$75 per square foot. That has now gone up to as much as \$200 per square foot, he said.

During the month of September, which is the last month of the first half of the wholesaler's business year, JTB World Vacations, H.I.S. and R&C Tours have all created package tour products titled, "Cheer up Saipan!" A full page, full color advertisement will run in Asahi's newspaper's morning edition on Sept. 23, which will be placed right next to the full page advertisement of JATA Tourism EXPO 2015. The advertisement will introduce a wide variety of tourist attractions of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, as well as a present campaign of two complimentary return air tickets for one couple. The advertisement will also feature the logos of JTB World Vacations, H.I.S., R&C Tours, KNT and NTA, all of whom are Japan Marianas Tourism Club members, as well as a selection of package tours to the CNMI.

The Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) has commenced a recovery plan with major wholesalers in Japan who struggled from substantial tour cancellations during August. The plan encourages wholesaler sales



New bottomfish catch limits for US Pacific territories

HONOLULU—A milestone was reached last week in the setting of the 2016 and 2017 annual catch limits, or ACLs, for federally managed bottomfish fisheries in the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The current ACLs of 101,000 lbs; 66,800 lbs; and 228,000 lbs, respectively, for the territories were initially set for fishing year 2013 based on a 2012 stock assessment and then rolled over for fishing years 2014 and 2015. The ACLs are specified by the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council and transmitted to the Secretary of Commerce for final approval.

On Sept. 16, the council's Scientific and Statistical Committee considered a recent update of the 2012 stock assessment and a review of the updated assessment by a panel composed of Dr. Erik Franklin (Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology), Dr. Milani Chaloupka (University of Queensland) and Dr. Donald Kobayashi (National Marine Fisheries Service).

The bottomline of the stock assessment update is that the bottomfish management unit species in American Samoa, Guam, and CNMI are not overfished and not experiencing overfishing. The SSC determined that the updated stock assessment is the best scientific information available. The council is required by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to use the best scientific information available in its fisheries man-

agement decision-making.

Several other steps will take place next week to develop the 2016 and 2017 ACLs. On Sept. 23 and 24, a working group will meet in Honolulu and by teleconference to recommend the risk of overfishing to be used in setting the ACLs. The risk of overfishing is based on scientific uncertainty of the information about the fisheries. On Sept. 25, another working group will meet to provide guidance on the social, economic, ecological and management uncertainty in the information about the fisheries. Then on Oct. 13 and 14, the SSC will meet in Honolulu during which time it will consider the working group findings and determine the acceptable biological catch for the territorial bottomfish fisheries, i.e., the amount of fish that can be harvested without overfishing. The council will meet Oct. 21 and 22, 2015, in American Samoa during which time it will use the acceptable biological catch specifications, the working group findings and public comments to determine the 2016 and 2017 ACLs.

While it is too early to determine what the final numbers will be for the 2016 and 2017 territorial bottomfish ACLs, last year the council rolled over the 2014 ACL to 2015 noting that the actual catch of bottomfish by the territories comprise a small proportion of the limits and there was no significant change in the fishery or the management of it. Except for the updated stock assessment, that situation remains the status quo.

The representative of the Northern Mariana Islands on the council is Secretary Richard Seman of the Department of Lands and Natural Resources.

For more information on the upcoming meetings and how to provide written and/or oral testimony on the topics to be covered at them, go to www.wpcouncil.org/meetings or contact the Council at info.wpcouncil@noaa.gov or call 808 522-8220. (*Wespac*)

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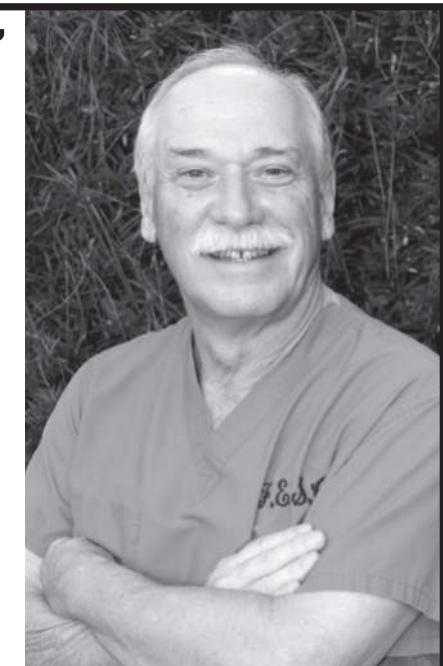
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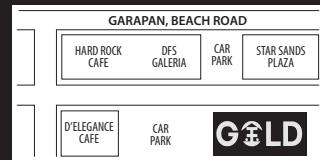
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Taiwanese offered chance to win island tours

Four countries are jointly promoting tours to some of their island territories through a video competition for Taiwanese travelers, the countries' tourism bureaus said Wednesday.

The winner of the competition will be given an all-expenses-paid trip to Coron Island in the Philippines, Tinian in the U.S.-controlled Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Tioman Island in Malaysia, and Koh Chang in Thailand, the bureaus said.

"We want to introduce these less-explored islands to offer different travel options to Taiwanese tourists," said Milane Tsai, PR and marketing manager of the Marianas Visitors Authority.

Taiwanese are invited to

STAR

From Page 1

"We really have no choice but to reduce our hours of operation, the number of aircraft we will be operating, and staffing levels. The airline issued its first reduction in force notices yesterday affecting nearly 10 percent of its staff, mostly on Tinian, and will likely make an additional 10 to 20 percent reduction, also primarily on Tinian," he said.

Under the new operating

BUDGET

From Page 1

Sablan said they are looking at a compromise on the number of activities that are included in the Senate's version of the budget. The House believes they can move forward on talks if both sides agree that not all of the Senate substitute provisions can make it to the final draft of the budget bill.

These Senate provisions include salary adjustments, new full-time positions, funding for a "drug" court, and increased municipal allotments. The provisions are to the tune of some \$4.2 million.

House lawmakers say that since day one of the budget talks they have agreed in principle to increase the salaries of law enforcement personnel. The Senate proposes 5 percent pay raises for law enforcers.

"We are not opposing the salary increases," Sablan said. "The fact is, everyone knows how long these people have gone on without any salary increases."

"But when looking at the overall picture and you have like \$4.2 million—that's quite significant. So we've broken it up to the main categories of activities, from the 5-percent salary adjustments, the new [full-time equivalent positions], and the all others," Sablan said.

The \$4.2 million average on the negotiating table is broken down, among others, mainly into:

DYNASTY

From Page 1

submit a 30-second video, introducing themselves and highlighting their travel experiences and dreams, Tsai said.

The deadline for the opening round of the competition is Sept. 25, after which a committee comprising representatives of the four countries will select 12 semi-finalists and release their videos online by Oct. 31.

Five finalists will then be selected by means of a public online vote and will appear before the committee, which will pick a winner on Nov. 9.

The winner will be required to complete the tour before a specified date and to submit travel videos for publication by the four tourism bureaus. (www.wantchinatimes.com)

schedule, Star Marianas' first scheduled flight of the day will depart Tinian for Saipan at 6:30am and Saipan for Tinian at 7am. The last scheduled flight of the day will leave Saipan for Tinian at 6pm and will leave Tinian for Saipan at 6:30pm.

"After-hour's charter arrangements can still be made, but only if they are booked in advance through our reservations office during normal business hours. The airline will no longer be accepting after-hours walk up charters," Christian added. (*Saipan Tribune*)

- \$556,000 for the 5-percent pay raises for law enforcers;
- \$1,567,282 for new full-time positions;
- \$1,689,809 for "all others," which include provisions for a drug court and funding for the Saipan Mayor's Office;
- \$413,631 for other salary adjustments. This includes pay raises for the resident directors of Rota and Tinian.

"...Our proposal is to try to eliminate the \$2.5 million for the new positions," Sablan told reporters on Friday. But he added that if they did have available funding they would look at prioritizing a few positions, about five or 10, for the Department of Public Safety, depending on the funding left.

Last week, the Senate and House agreed in principle to direct the Marianas Visitors Authority through program modifications to move money to other agencies to make up for the shortfall left after money was first moved around from the local hospital and public streetlights to fund the Senate provisions.

But on Friday, Sablan said, by looking at the numbers on the table and eliminating about \$3 million, they would have a "significant lower number" to take out of MVA.

"The little details, the details of the activities, we'll need to decide that on Monday, or Tuesday, but I think overall... This budget cannot be burdened by the \$4.2. [million] impact of the Senate activities, Sablan said.

DYNASTY

From Page 1

nese Strategic Holdings Ltd. chair and executive director Kwok Hing Wilfred Lam and its subsidiary, Tinian Entertainment Co., is pushing for this compromise before paying the additional \$100,000 while the suitability investigation for their plenary casino gaming license is ongoing.

Responding to Tinian Mayor Joey P. San Nicolas' request for TEC to pay the \$100,000 investigation fee, Lam said they have already paid a \$100,000 investigation fee and the amount the commission is asking for again is on top of that amount they've already paid.

"We have been doing our best to work with the TCGCC through this process. We had already paid the \$100,000 investigation fee as well as \$200,000 application fee," he said.

Lam said it was troubling that the TCGCC already spent the initial \$100,000 investigation fee even "before the investigation had begun."

According to the Tinian Legislative Delegation, Lam wrote TCGCC executive director Lucy Blanco-Maritita on Feb. 13, 2015, to "request the initiation of suitability finding of Chinese Strategic Holdings Ltd. and its direct and indirect wholly owned subsidiaries... including TEC."

During the TCGCC public meeting last Thursday, Sept. 17, TCGCC members denied receiving any investigative fee from TEC, stating that they didn't consider the February payment as payment for TEC's investigation.

FEDS

From Page 1

was warranted after years of clamor from environmentalists concerned with the growing threat of military presence.

The Service has included the Tinian monarch on a list of dozens of species across the nation to undergo status review over the next year.

The Tinian monarch lives exclusively in Tinian's forest.

The Service's announcement on Friday comes two years after a petition filed by the Center of Biological Diversity to protect the bird with endangered status in 2013. It also comes nine months after the Center filed a notice to sue the Service in December last year, alleging that the Service had failed to meet a deadline to declare if the monarch "may warrant" protection.

"The one and only island these birds call home has a long history of habitat destruction," said Tara Easter, a scientist with the Center in a statement. "With a rampant increase in military combat training in their forested habitat, Endangered Species Act protection is critical to prevent the loss of the Tinian monarch."

That "military combat" the

Lam said that they never authorized the money to be spent on anything other than their casino license application suitability investigation.

"The demand for an additional \$100,000 before the TCGCC will proceed with the investigation gives us great concern. The expenditure of additional funds will require a showing of good faith," Lam said.

TCGCC executive director says

In a separate statement, Maratita said the investigative fee hasn't been paid yet as of Sept. 16.

TEC was given until Sept. 9 to deposit with TCGCC the additional \$100,000 refundable investigation fee.

TEC and Chinese Strategic submitted its application for a casino license last Sept. 3, but the documents were actually due on Aug. 24, 2015. Documents required to be submitted by Sept. 4 are still pending as of Sept. 7.

Maratita said TCGCC stands ready to expedite the suitability review process for TEC/Chinese Strategic's casino license application, but they cannot proceed as of Sept. 15 "since neither the documents requested nor the additional licensing costs deposits have been submitted or paid."

San Nicolas responds

San Nicolas also took issue with Blanco-Maratita's statement last week that questioned why the mayor has not come to the defense of the commission much earlier.

San Nicolas said that he has been very public about his support of further developing

Center alludes to would be the grenade, mortar, and artillery training, among others, prescribed under the "CNMI Joint Military Training" project.

That expansive live-fire project—under its preferred training alternative—would displace about 7,200 Tinian monarchs, according to the project's environmental impact documents.

Under all alternatives, the project would remove about 1,800 acres of forest home to native birds like the monarch.

Saipan Tribune pressed several Service officials on Friday to confirm if the status review was triggered by the expanding military activities as the Center claims, but this was not answered as of press time.

The Service was also asked to explain how a potential endangered or threatened status might impact consultations with military, but this was also not answered by the Service.

If listed under the Endangered Species Act, the Service would have to engage in talks with the U.S. military and permit a "take" of the monarch after a biological opinion on impacts is issued, and if the military project is approved and moves forward.

In their impact documents, the U.S. military has noted "sig-

Tinian's casino industry and keeping the Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino doors open.

"There should be no question as to where my commitment lies and that's with the people whose livelihoods are adversely impacted by the casino's closure. [Blanco-Maratita's] comments are illustrative of her adversarial posture throughout this process. This is not about supporting TCGCC or TEC. It is about finding solutions to help the people who will be out of jobs and not having the means to support their families," San Nicolas said.

Tinian Dynasty early issued a statement that it will close its doors this month in the wake of the impact of Typhoon Soudelor, which has severely affected their ability to operate.

San Nicolas said that if Dynasty were to close, about 600 Dynasty employees and more than 40 municipal employees would lose their jobs.

Ability to be impartial

The Tinian Legislative Delegation also questioned the ability of the commission to remain impartial in the vetting process, citing Blanco-Maratita's "continuous public criticism" of TEC during the license application process.

Francisco M. Borja, chairman of the Tinian Legislative Delegation and Senate vice president, said: "It is inappropriate to discuss the suitability of casino license applicants to the public, especially if they are still undergoing the investigation process. How can TEC expect fair treatment when past acts of Hong Kong

nificant" and "unavoidable" impacts to Tinian, resulting in the loss of coral reef and acres of native forest, among others.

"The Service was petitioned to review the Tinian monarch and we have completed that 90-day review," Christine Ogura, acting public affairs officer and Service compliance monitoring coordinator, told *Saipan Tribune* in an email on Friday.

"Based on the initial assessment of the petition and the information it contained, the Service determined it warrants further review. The Service will begin a required 12-month status review to determine if listing is warranted," Ogura said.

"To ensure this review is comprehensive, the Service will be requesting scientific and commercial data and other information from myriad sources," she added.

Saipan Tribune learned that the announced status review is evidence that there exist critical habitat areas on Tinian for the Tinian monarch—making these areas inappropriate for live-fire training.

Only about 549 acres of native forest remain on Tinian, and the monarch has seen population decline by nearly 40 percent between 1996 and 2006,

Entertainment, which has already entered into a settlement agreement with the federal government with regards to the FinCEN fines, is now being publicly attributed to them by the executive director?"

The Tinian Legislative Delegation cited a statement Blanco-Maratita gave to the press on Sept. 9, defending TCGCC's role in the closure of the Dynasty, "shifting the blame to Mega Stars and Hong Kong Entertainment, calling them 'uncooperative,' which she surmises as what ultimately led to the Dynasty's current dilemma with TEC's license application."

The delegation also cited Rep. Edwin Aldan (Ind-Tinian), who has also questioned whether the members of TCGCC can remain impartial in reviewing the investigative findings, when the commission has continuously publicly chastised the applicants in the review process.

"I understand that the commission is feeling the pressure from the community given the impact of the Dynasty's casino operation's closure. However, while the process is ongoing, it is not right to come out and to start pointing fingers like what they are doing," Aldan said.

The Tinian Legislative Delegation and San Nicolas have been requesting HKE to keep the hotel operations open until such time a determination has been made on TEC's casino license application.

"At this point, all I can do for the people is ask HKE, and ask again, to keep their doors open, at least until TCGCC has made a decision on TEC's license," San Nicolas said.

according to the Center.

The Federal Aviation Administration also has concerns with the bird, *Saipan Tribune* learned, as a special mitigation zone was created for the Tinian monarch in 1999 out of concerns of the impact of Tinian's Westfield airport expansion.

That year, FAA designated 936 acres of forest within the military's leaseback area as the "airport mitigation conservation area." The revised leaseback agreement in 1999 turned Westfield into surplus property and no longer needed for defense-related purposes. However, some 10 years later, things are different as the live-fire project entails construction on the Westfield property as well as impact to the conservation area.

The Center believes that the destruction of this land does not comply with the requirements laid out in these earlier conservation agreements.

On Friday, the Center said the expanding military activities is threatening extinction to the Tinian monarch—a 7.5-inch, tan-faced bird with a gray head, chocolate-brown back and dark wings with white bars, that catches insects and nest in trees and has call sounds just like a squeaky dog toy.

SBA disaster assistance loans top \$5M

The U.S. Small Business Administration has to date approved more than \$5 million in federal disaster loans for Saipan businesses and residents impacted by Typhoon Soudelor, according to Jane Sawyer, director of the SBA Hawaii District office, yesterday.

According to her, SBA has approved \$2,850,200 for businesses and \$2,193,600 for residents to help rebuild and recover from this disaster.

"SBA's disaster assistance employees are committed to helping businesses and residents rebuild as quickly as possible," she said.

Typhoon Soudelor devastated Saipan on Aug. 2-3, 2015.

Businesses and residents who sustained damage are encouraged to register prior to the Oct. 5, 2015, deadline with the Federal Emergency Management Agency by calling the tele-registration number at (800) 621-5755 (TTY) for individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing.

"Don't miss out on any assistance you may be entitled

to by not registering for help. You don't need to wait for your insurance to settle or obtain a contractor's estimate," Sawyer added.

SBA continues to provide one-on-one assistance to disaster loan applicants at the Disaster Recovery Center, located at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe, from Monday to Friday, 8am to 5pm, and on Saturday, from 8am to 12pm.

Businesses of all sizes and private nonprofit organizations may borrow up to \$2 million to repair or replace damaged or destroyed real estate, machinery and equipment, inventory, and other business assets. The SBA can also lend additional funds to help business and residents with the cost of making improvements that protect, prevent or minimize the same type of disaster damage from occurring in the future.

For small businesses and most private nonprofit organizations of all sizes, SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans to help meet working

capital needs caused by the disaster. EIDL assistance is available regardless of whether the business suffered any property damage.

Disaster loans up to \$200,000 are available to homeowners to repair or replace their damaged or destroyed primary residence. Homeowners and renters are eligible for up to \$40,000 to repair or replace damaged or destroyed personal property.

Applicants may apply online using the Electronic Loan Application via SBA's secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela>.

Disaster loan information and application forms are also available from SBA's Customer Service Center by calling (800) 659-2955 or emailing disastercustomerservice@sba.gov. Individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing may call (800) 877-8339.

The filing deadline to submit applications for property damage is Oct. 5, 2015. The deadline to submit economic injury applications is May 5, 2016. (SBA)

days. As this disturbance moves through the Marianas, periods of heavy showers, occasional thunderstorms and wind gusts of 25 to 35 mph are possible. Tropical storm conditions are not expected at this time but this could change if the system slows down. (HSEM)

Weather disturbance being monitored

The CNMI Emergency Operations Center, in coordination with the National Weather Service and Joint Typhoon Warning Center, is closely monitoring a tropical disturbance that has potential to affect the

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
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Cocktail @ \$5.00 • Wine @ \$4.50
Champagne @ \$3.50



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ST. LOUIS—Anheuser-Busch, in conjunction with its local distributors, Ambros Inc. and Marpac Distributors, are providing 4,312 cases of emergency drinking water—or 103,488 cans—to aid Saipan residents affected by Typhoon Soudelor.

Anheuser-Busch, along with Ambros Inc. and Marpac Distributors, are working with the American Red Cross NMI Chapter to get the water where it's needed once the water arrives from the West Coast.

Shipping partner Matson is helping bring in the two 40-foot containers from the LA Brewery to Saipan as part of their community service program.

“Relief workers and people on the island are in need of safe, clean drinking water, and Anheuser-Busch is in a unique position to produce and ship large quantities of emergency drinking water,” said Peter Kraemer, vice president of Supply for Anheuser-

Busch. “Our local distributors help identify those communities most in need, and work with relief organizations such as the American Red Cross to make sure the water gets where it's needed.”

Since 1988, Anheuser-Busch has donated more than 73 million cans of emergency drinking water following natural and other disasters. Helping communities cope with disasters has been an Anheuser-Busch tradition since 1906 when Adolphus Busch made a donation to the American Red Cross for victims of the San Francisco earthquake. Today, in addition to providing monetary support

as a member of the American Red Cross Annual Disaster Giving Program, Anheuser-Busch packages emergency drinking water and works with the American Red Cross and other emergency relief organizations for distribution to those in need. (PR)

TINIAN CASINO GAMING CONTROL COMMISSION

Municipality of Tinian and Aguijan
 Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Municipal Scholarship Board hereby gives notice that there will be a Special Meeting on **Tuesday, September 22, 2015 at 3:30 p.m.** at the Northern Marianas College, Tinian campus, building B (room E) in San Jose Village, Tinian.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCCG) hereby gives notice that it will hold a Special Meeting on Tuesday, September 22, 2015, at 10:00 a.m. at the TCCG Conference Room.

AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY**
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Roll Call
 - c. Adoption of Agenda
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS¹**
- III. REPORTS**
 - a. Chair's Report
 - b. Executive Director's Report
- IV. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
- V. NEW BUSINESS**
 - a. Hearing on TCCG Proceeding No. 15-01 [TCCG vs. HKEOIL, Chan Chun Wai] (Complaint and Order to Show Cause why casino license should not be suspended, revoked, or terminated)
- VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION²**
- VII. MISCELLANEOUS/ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**
- VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

/S/JULIAN U. HOFSCHEIDER
 Chairman

¹ We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments on the day of the meeting.

² Pursuant to 1 CMC section 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

³ Individuals with special needs requiring special accommodations, please contact the TMSB office at least 48 hours prior to schedule meeting for assistance.

World Resort donates \$30,000 to Saipan relief efforts



By FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA
frauleine_villanueva@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan World Resort donated \$30,000 to the CNMI government last Friday to be used for the disaster recovery efforts on Saipan.

Gathering at the Office of the Governor's conference room, resort representatives personally presented the check to Gov. Eloy S. Inos.

"Under a disaster situation there is no private sector or public sector. We are all the same victims and all the same community members. It is natural to donate as support to the community," World Resort general manager Hyung Cho Kim said.

The donation was made possible through the water park fundraising that the resort organized last month.

"It was an effort by the company fundraising through the water park and they came up with a matching fund for whatever amount we raised through the water park," human resource manager Miriam Seman said.

For 10 days, World Resort opened their water park to residents for only \$5 each, which served as their contribution to the fundraiser. An initial limit of 100 people per day was set but they exceeded and reached up to 200 a day.

World Resort was able to collect more than \$12,000, which the resort management matched to come up with a total of \$30,000.

During the promotion, they were considering donating the money to non-government organizations but, according to Seman, they decided to just give it to the governor's office and let them figure out who needs it the most.

"We have a long discussion as to how we will distribute the money," Seman said.

Inos said they appreciate the support and assistance given by World Resort.

"I want to thank you on behalf

of the entire Commonwealth citizens," Inos said. "Thank you very much for giving us the opportunity to let us decide on how best to allocate the funds. I know there are more needs and wants out there than available resources and we just have to be very strategic and smart. We just have to be smarter because there is not enough money."

Inos said they will make

sure to put the money to good use and will be sure to let the public know how the money will be used.

"We do have a non-profit entity that we put together and they've got a board of directors, officers that will make the decision as to how best to utilize whatever cash donation that comes in through the government," Inos said.

CCA board meeting on Sept. 29

The Commonwealth Cancer Association's board of directors will be holding its regular board of directors meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2015, starting at 3pm at the Commonwealth Cancer Association's conference room.

The agenda includes reports from the president and program updates. All board meetings are open to the public. For more information, contact the CCA at 682-0050 or email at ccamarianas@gmail.com. (CCA)

The CNMI government received a donation of \$30,000 from Saipan World Resort last Friday. Part of the money came from the resort's fundraising efforts through their water park while part of it was given by the resort itself.

FRAULEINE S. VILLANUEVA



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Board of Directors Northern Marianas Humanities Council

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council (Council) wishes to announce a vacancy on its board of directors.

The Council is a non-profit private corporation affiliated with the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Council's mission is to "foster awareness, understanding and appreciation of the humanities through support of educational programs that relate the humanities to the indigenous cultures and to the intellectual needs and interests of the people of the Commonwealth."

The Council's board is comprised of thirteen volunteer members who serve three year terms. The Council strives to maintain a board that reflects a broad cross section of our CNMI community. The ideal candidate will have a strong desire to promote the Council's mission, programs, and activities and to actively participate in fundraising activities. Board responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Attending regular Council meetings four times annually;
- Raising funds for Council programs;
- Recruiting community partners;
- Promoting awareness about the Council's mission and its programs in the community;
- Attending Council programs and activities;
- Participating in working committee meetings;
- Evaluating Council programs and activities;
- Reviewing grant applications;
- Providing input about the humanities from various community members, and
- Attending conferences, workshops and other meetings on behalf of the Council.

Applicants are invited to submit their letters of interest and resumes to Robert H. Hunter, Chair, Northern Marianas Humanities Council at Post Office Box 506437 Saipan, MP 96950 or delivered to the Council's office located in the Springs Plaza Building in Gualo Rai, Saipan. All letters of interest and resumes must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 30, 2015. For additional information, please contact the Council's Executive Director, Scott Russell, at telephone 235-4785 or visit the Council's website at www.northernmariashumanities.org.

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8:30am - 4:00pm

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Internet scam convict tells previous victim he has \$2M coming

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie.delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Benny K. Pangelinan, a former Coastal Resources Management official who's been twice convicted for his involvement in Internet scams, allegedly approached again a relative that he previously victimized of more than \$20,000 to claim he has \$2 million in a bank but that he just he needed to pay \$850 to pay a "Customs fee" so the funds could be released to him.

The allegation prompted Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona to approve a request by the U.S. Probation Office to summon to Pangelinan to court and explain why his probation term should not be revoked.

Upon the U.S. Probation

U.S. Probation Officer Gregory F. Arriola stated in his report that U.S. Probation Officer Margarita Wonenberg had received a call on June 17, 2015, from one of Pangelinan's previous victims.

The victim disclosed that Pangelinan had stopped by her residence on two separate occasions, asking for money apparently to pay Customs taxes to release his money out of holding. The victim said she already gave Pangelinan \$450.

Wonenberg informed the victim that Pangelinan's contact with the victim was a violation of his probation conditions. Wonenberg instructed the victim not to give Pangelinan more money.

Upon the U.S. Probation

Office's instruction, the victim and her husband reported to the U.S. Probation Office last June 24 to further explain what happened.

The victim disclosed that on May 28, 2015, Pangelinan stopped by their residence at 10am, without their invitation. She stated that she informed Pangelinan that the court prohibited him from contacting them.

She said Pangelinan acknowledged this, but then informed them that there was money for him in a Bank of Guam account totaling \$2 million.

Pangelinan claimed that an individual was on Saipan to hand deliver documents and a bank card to him. He did not elaborate on the identity of

this person.

Pangelinan informed her that he needed \$850 to pay a "Customs fee" to have the money released to him, but did not have enough money to make the full payment.

The victim said she gave Pangelinan \$250 that day.

On June 4, 2015, the victim reported that Pangelinan returned to their home to ask for more money. She said Pangelinan advised her he was unable to raise the \$850 and was considering asking others, possibly one of his cousins, to assist him raise the money.

The victim gave Pangelinan \$200 more that day. He informed her that he would keep her updated with the progress of his \$2 million.

When two weeks had passed without any contact from Pangelinan, the victim contacted Wonenberg about it last June 17.

She noted that on that same day, her husband went to Pangelinan's residence to confront him about returning the money.

Later that day, Pangelinan stopped by their residence and returned the \$450.

That afternoon, however, Pangelinan, returned to their residence to show her a letter that was addressed to him. The victim was only able to read the first part of the letter when her husband interrupted and chased Pangelinan from their house.

When asked why she kept giving Pangelinan money even after he victimized her and her husband of more than \$20,000, she said he is a family member and was very convincing.

Last June 25, Pangelinan reported to the U.S. Probation Office as instructed for a non-compliance meeting.

Probation officer Arriola said Pangelinan admitted it was a mistake for him to approach the couple against court orders. Pangelinan admitted asking them for money and that he received \$450 from his relative.

He also admitted telling them that an individual was on Saipan to deliver documents and a bank card to him. He clarified that it's only \$100,000 in the bank account and not \$2 million. He also stated that the "Customs fee" was \$650 and not \$850.

Probation officer Arriola

said Pangelinan later explained that he fabricated the story as he was on the verge of having his power disconnected and needed \$650 to pay his utilities.

Pangelinan said he returned the \$450 after learning from a Commonwealth Utilities Corp. representative that he would not be disconnected.

Pangelinan said the letter that he showed was the one he got via email from an Internet contact sometime in 2005 to 2006 related to his previous case.

Pangelinan denied accessing the Internet again without the U.S. Probation Office's permission.

Arriola said they verified through CUC bills and found out that Pangelinan's bill for June totaled \$561 and did not match the \$650 he reported earlier. Pangelinan explained he misread the bill.

The officer pointed out that the victim said he contacted them last May, but they found out this month that his CUC balance was only \$382.

Pangelinan denied that the meeting was in May.

For his supervision compliance, Pangelinan paid his special assessment fee in full, his retirement wages are being garnished at a rate of \$400 a month as payment toward his restitution. He completed his 50 hours of community service and submitted to the collection of a DNA sample.

In February 2014, the federal court imposed a three-year probation sentence on Pangelinan for wire fraud for his involvement again in an Internet scam.

Saipan Tribune Make it your *DAILY* habit.



Frank M. Rabauliman
Administrator

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8313



Frances A. Castro
Director, DCRM

NOTICE OF MEETING OF THE DCRM AGENCY OFFICIALS

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Ralph DLG. Torres through the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) hereby give notice that a DCRM Agency Officials meeting will be held on **Thursday, October 15, 2015, 9:00 AM** at the Office of the Mayor Conference Room, San Jose Tinian.

AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
 - a) Call to Order
 - b) Roll Call
 - c) Adoption of July 15 & 28, 2015 Meeting Minutes
- II. PERMIT APPLICATION
 1. Tinian Municipal Transfer Station (TMS-2014-X-058)
 - a. Discussion by DCRM Agency Officials and Director
 - b. Permit Application Determination
 2. Tinian Magpo Homestead (TMS-2015-059)
 - a. Tinian Magpo Homestead Summary
 - b. Discussion by DCRM Agency Officials and Director
 - c. Permit Application Status
 3. Reactivation of the Pagan Island Mining Operations (PMS-93-X-76)
 - a. Project Status by Micronesian Environmental Services
 - b. Discussion by DCRM Agency Officials, Director and Permittee
- III. MISCELLANEOUS
- IV. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony regarding the above agenda items.

(NOTE: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/s/ **FRANCES A. CASTRO**
DCRM Director

Kinpachi Restaurant raises \$2K-plus for C.O.R.E.



Front, from left: C.O.R.E member Kazuyo Estrada, her daughter, and Kinpachi owner Misako Kamata. Back, left to right: C.O.R.E members Carol Hosono, Mami Ikeda, a Kinpachi Restaurant staff, Pacific Development Inc.'s Gordon Marciano, and C.O.R.E member Masaki Inoue.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson.camacho@saipantribune.com

REPORTER
Kinpachi Restaurant marked its 35th anniversary this year with a fundraising event last Saturday at the Marianas Business Plaza in Susupe, raising about \$2,867 that will go to

the Community Outreach Recovery Efforts, or C.O.R.E., a group devoted to giving direct relief efforts and medical outreach to Typhoon Soudelor survivors around Saipan.

Mami Ikeda, main representative for the C.O.R.E group, said she is thankful to Kinpachi's contribution, which she said would help the group purchase more items for their relief efforts.

“It was big support from Kinpachi, and it started when they were going to celebrate their 35th anniversary. Kinpachi owner Misako Kamata

decided to give 100 percent of the proceeds to us and C.O.R.E thanks them for this contribution,” Ikeda said.

Saturday's fundraiser feature special hot lunches such as katsudon, chicken teriyaki, chicken curry, yakitori grills, and taiyaki grills, as well as mochi for those wanting sweets. There were also free giveaways from 360 Restaurant and other sponsors.

The Saipan Awaodori Team and the CNMI Domatsuri dance group performed for the crowd that participated in the event.

Kamata told *Saipan Tribune* that they have been saving up for the celebration of their 35th anniversary prior to Typhoon Soudelor. However, after Soudelor laid waste to Saipan, Kinpachi decided to focus on providing service to the community.

“After Soudelor, we started

making food for those at the shelter and later on to C.O.R.E., which has been delivering aid directly to those who needed it,” Kamata said. “This is our service back to the community for 35 years in business. They have kept us here on island for 35 years and Kinpachi is still open, so we are giving back as well.”

C.O.R.E.'s Ikeda also thanked Erick Van Der Maas, Eden, and 360 Marianas Business Plaza for allowing them to use the facility at such short notice.

Ikeda also said special thanks to Gordon I. Marciano for organizing, being the emcee and all the support he gave Kinpachi and C.O.R.E., as well as KKMP for the sound system, L.J. Castro and his team, all the dance teams and bands that performed, James-Carol Fleming and Team Exotic International for their job

with traffic and crowd control throughout the event, Rep. Ed Propst and his team for the additional picnic tables, K-Mart for donating 25 cases of bottled water to be sold by Kinpachi, Island Best Choice team for donating 500 papaya soaps for giveaways, contributors who donated boxes of mosquito coil to C.O.R.E., which were used for special giveaway care packages; Power99, and Best Sunshine's Tao Xing and his team for preordering 40 hot lunches.

“I also want to thank everyone who was there to support the good cause. You all made it happen,” she said. “Maximum ‘arigato’ to Misako, the Awaodori Team and the whole Kinpachi family for an awesome opportunity and their dedicated contributions to the community.”



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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-15-021

Typhoon Soudelor Disaster Recovery Project - "Engineering Consultant Services"

The Office of the Executive Director of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting Expedited Request for Proposals (CUC-RFP-15-021) for *Engineering Consultant Services for conducting Engineering Assessment and Provision of Repair Plans and Procedures for three (3) Power Plant Facilities Projects on Saipan: Power Plant 1, Power Plant 2, and Power Plant 4*.

As this project is time sensitive, with critical effects on the economy, health and life of the island of Saipan's residents and its business community, under this contract, CUC may award to multiple consultant firms to perform the scope of work at one or more power plants.

These options allow the CUC an opportunity to select more than one proposer, if that decision serves the best interest of CUC, at any given time, depending on this RFP's response.

The Scope of Work and Solicitation Package will be emailed upon request, by CUC Procurement & Supply Office from 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 PM (ChST), Monday to Friday, except on government observed holidays, until September 17, 2015.

One (1) original and five (5) copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “(CUC-RFP-15-021) for *Engineering Consultant Services*” to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than September 30, 2015 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Submissions, in PDF, must also be emailed to the addresses as noted in the RFP. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered. CUC reserves the right to reject any proposal received after the deadline. Proposals shall be evaluated as per the evaluation criteria specified in the RFP. Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations.

A mandatory Pre-proposal Conference will be conducted at the Power Plant I Administration Building in Lower Base, Saipan on **September 10, 2015 at 10:30 AM (ChST)**. Immediately after the conference, a Site Visits to Power Plant 1, Power Plant 2, and Power Plant 4 facilities will be arranged. Proposers should familiarize themselves with the site conditions at each facility so all sites can be evaluated properly.

Contract(s) will be awarded to the firm(s) submitting the most responsive proposal(s), and who is/are determined by CUC to be best qualified firm(s) to successfully perform the work, and to meet all other requirements thereof. CUC reserves the rights, nevertheless, to accept a proposal other than the lowest, if it determines that CUC's interest will be best served by doing so, or to reject any and all proposals or parts of proposals received.

Proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Proposer due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under the contract.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment. There shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing proposers. All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proposer awarded a contract.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This request and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 22, 2015** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Venugopal Prabhakara, CUC Stipulated Order 2 Project Coordinator via email address venugopal.prabhakara@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

JOHN RIEGEL
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
 THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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EDITORIAL

A clock and a question of bias

There is a line between acting out of an abundance of caution and entering the theater of the absurd. Authorities in Irving, Texas, appear to have barreled across that line this week when they mistook a student-made clock for a fake bomb and marched a handcuffed 14-year-old freshman, Ahmed Muhammed, out of school and into juvenile detention.

Not all of the details of Ahmed's arrest, and subsequent release, are known yet, including why school officials and police presumed a device Ahmed insisted was a clock was actually the prop in a possible bomb hoax. Was it something he did or said? Or was it his ethnicity? His Muslim faith? His name?

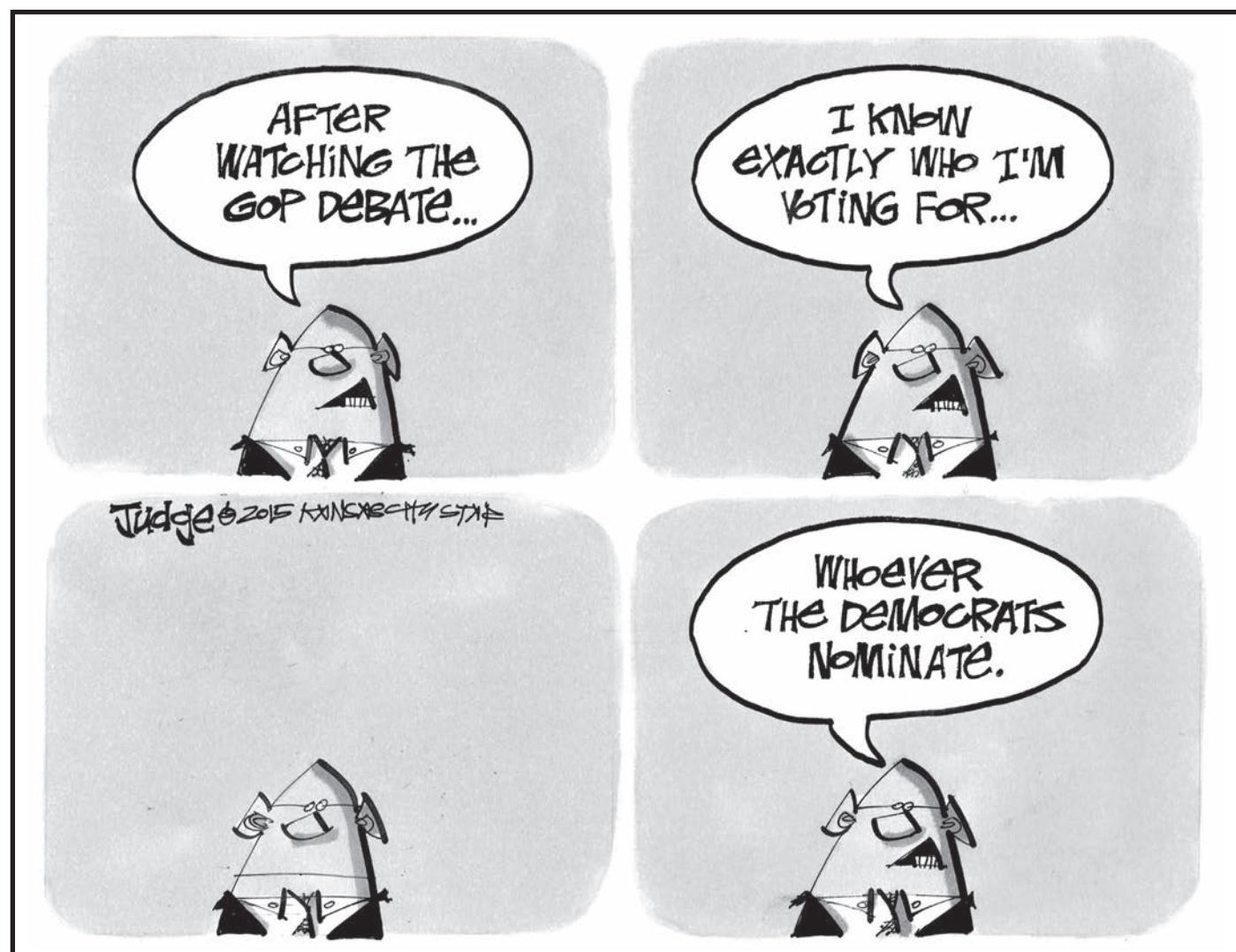
Regardless, there are enough known details to spur outrage at this young man's treatment. Ahmed, who was new to the school and had an affinity for gadgets, told reporters he wanted to impress his new teachers with his abilities. So he cobbled together the clock—a power source, circuit board and digital display—in 20 minutes on Sunday night, then took it to school Monday. Ahmed's engineering teacher complimented him while advising him not to show it to others. But after the clock's alarm beeped in his school bag during English class, Ahmed showed it to the teacher, who told him it looked like a bomb. No, he said, it was a clock. She took the device, and a short time later the principal and a police officer escorted Ahmed out of another class and into a room where four more officers were waiting. He was interrogated, denied the ability to call his father, then arrested on charges he had brought a "hoax bomb" to school.

Who brought up the idea that the clock was a fake bomb? The English teacher, and then the police, who speculated that it looked like "a movie bomb" that could easily be "left in a bathroom or under a car," which leads to the bizarre circumstance of a police officer's imagination serving as probable cause for making an arrest.

The school and Irving Mayor Beth Van Duyne, who had a moment of infamy this year in a debate over the existence of sharia courts in Texas, have since doubled down, congratulating school officials and police for appropriate actions. The school district urged parents to use "this opportunity to talk with your child about the Student Code of Conduct and specifically not bringing items to school that are prohibited." What, a clock? The students would be better served if school officials took this opportunity to talk among themselves about prejudice, presumption and disproportionate reactions.

Whether Ahmed was the victim of implicit bias by school officials and police, or even overt racial profiling, is unclear. That he was the victim of poor judgment by authority figures who should know better is certain. And he deserves an apology.

(c) 2015 Los Angeles Times



Order by consent or politics of dissent

The dichotomy is not dissimilar to the common mistake of depicting China as Red Commie, and the mass protests against anything CCP as democratic. The common terms used are CCP's "abuse of power" and "corruption" in government, while mass action of any kind is a people's revolt asserting democratic longings.

Al Jazeera (*Al-ğazīrah al-‘arabiyyah*), one of the world's largest news networks, watches over the fascination with a Guangdong village northeast of Hong Kong called Wukan, approximately of the same latitude as the southern city of Kaohsiung in Taiwan. We relate this trivia because *Taipei News* reported on a letter to the local Kaohsiung police from Guangdong to investigate the family of an arrested person. An officer at the police station was quoted as saying: "What is going on here? Is Taiwan part of China now? They are ordering us to follow up on an investigation." There are set ways of making the request without making it appear like the two are related to each other!

We add the notion of "one China, two systems" guiding the mainland's connection to the island nation, as well as China's relationship with the former British colony of Xiang Gang (HK) and the Portuguese enclave of Aomen (Macau). Both Beijing and Taipei sees Taiwan as part of China; the conflict is on who calls the shots.

Human rights abuses in Taiwan took a grimmer look than the record of the Red Commie in the mainland late '60s, and when Nixon trusted the Kissinger-Zhou Enlai protocol to travel and shake Mao's hands in 1972, the Republic of China (ROC-Taiwan) got more isolated and the People's Republic of China (PRC-Beijing) displayed its rosy cheeks.

"One China, two systems" was Deng Xiaoping's genius, negotiating with Meg Thatcher for the turnover of Xiang Gang (HK) back to China. Taipei consented without conceding the governance issue. In the Olympic Games, however, Taiwan competes as Chinese Taipei with its own Olympic flag. When a medal is won, as two gold were earned in 2004, the PRC anthem is played and the PRC flag is raised. It is not for nothing that the primary symbol of Sinosphere is the *yin-yang* whose strength is in balance rather than conflict.

Beijing draws Xiang Gang closer but HK students protested in Occupy Central last year and the Umbrella Movement this year, fueled by an external audience primed to see nothing but a monster of Commie Red, never mind that the practice of democracy is hardly in HK's social genes nor a trait of the Imperial Brit's watch over the colony. The Victoria Peak and its environs were ruled on single malt at the Jockey Club in Happy Valley!

We say the same with the Protest or Siege of Wukan, dubbed as a democratic process but began as a local request to get the CCP higher-ups to intervene in a real estate affair. China as a socialist

By JAIME VERGARA
 Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



state does not have private real estate properties. The land farmed is assigned by the state to workers. When eminent domain is exercised, the farmer's compensation rate is at a farm's shown productive capability.

Since the mid-'80s, the government sponsored real estate development that saw the increase of property values in the "market" had the farmers perceive that they were not fairly compensated. I live in an apartment at a former farmland in Shenzhen, a unit in a four-story complex among 12 developed by Hutchinson of HK with a few more to go, the built ones all fully subscribed to but eight remaining unoccupied.

"Abuse of power" is an HK media accusation of the Communist Party. Beijing added "corruption" as a party internal disease attached to abuse of power when CCP members take personal advantage of their position. My favorite Xi Jinping quote is, "One cannot work for the government and be rich at the same time." Ex-PLA Wang Jianlin of humble beginnings was chairman at 35 of the then-government-run Wanda in 1989. Today he is chairman of Dalian Wanda Group, China's largest private real estate developer.

There are almost 88 million members of the CCP, more than the membership of the Democratic (43 million) and Republican (31 million) parties in the United States. Of people, China has 1.357 billion (2013) compared to the U.S.' 318.9 million (2014). There are more party members in China than in the U.S. but on people count, there are 4 Chinese for every American, and 1 in every 5 people on the planet.

A "corruption" story of my familiar is a young CCP brother who blurts out over dinner that the province plans a new settlement in a farm area. The elder brother quietly takes the information and inconspicuously develops as much real estate as he can. Ten years later, he manages three tall 30-floor buildings, plus. Over another family gathering where it is customary to pass out red envelopes with portraits of Mao, he hands a fat envelope to his brother. He had been lucky in business, he says.

In some quarters, that is corruption. In others, that is filial benefice.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published.

The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Budget twist and shout

With a little over a week to go before the Oct. 1 start of fiscal year 2016, the bicameral committee tasked to break a budget deadlock between the House of Representatives and Senate may have already reached a compromise, though there's no guarantee that integrity isn't compromised as well.

A conference committee meeting is set for today, while the House will have a session on Wednesday and Senate later this week to pass a compromise budget bill.

Talks of a House leadership change (with Rota and Tinian members helping to tip the scale) much earlier than initially anticipated may well be the latest twist or trick to agree on a spending package that will be sent to the governor. To avert a shutdown, of course.

The three Senate budget conferees were voted into office just last year so they won't be up for re-election next year. The House leadership, on the other hand, seems to be on shaky ground once again. This comes four months before a supposed "turnover" of the House speakership from Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan) to Ralph Demapan (R-Saipan).

What was initially argued as unconstitutional may pave the way, after all, for salary increases, additional hiring, vehicle purchases, increased Senate and House leadership accounts, and increased Rota and Tinian budget, among other things, at a time when the CNMI is still reeling from Typhoon Soudelor.

The Senate wants a \$300,000 leadership account for the Senate and House. That's a 67-percent increase from the House proposal of \$179,387.

Assuming that each of the nine senators equally benefits from the Senate-proposed leadership account, that's the equivalent of \$33,333 for each senator or \$15,000 for each House member if all 20 members get an equal share.

These are in addition to lawmakers' constitutionally protected annual salary of \$39,300 each, and still separate from the so-called discretionary fund of each lawmaker, now at \$74,822, based on the Senate and House budget versions.

"Irresponsible" isn't a word strong enough to describe what's

happening with the legislative budget process as the public watches in shock and awe. Members of the public—many of them still without power, still living in typhoon-damaged houses, or yet to go back to work—are bracing for yet another disaster, a man-made one.

It's within the Legislature's power to pass a responsible, balanced budget on time.

If lawmakers so believe that law enforcement officers need a salary increase at this time (hopefully, based on merit and not automatic, across-the-board), lawmakers might as well chip off some of the funds they want to give themselves such as their leadership account, discretionary funds and even monthly subsistence allowance instead of further cutting into other departments' budgets or risking a constitutional violation.

But yet again, a lot of things can still happen between now and Sept. 30.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos may as well sign off on a "preparatory" government shutdown memo—a standard precautionary measure—identifying exempted "essential" positions. The earlier, the better.

Because not everyone would make the exempt list, that would leave some 1,500 "other" employees temporarily unemployed in case of a partial government shutdown. They must be given time to prepare themselves and their families.

When the House and Senate pass a budget bill in the nick of time, the governor with his back to the wall will have a small window to review and spell out the problematic provisions of the compromise—or compromised—spending bill.

The Constitution requires a government shutdown if no new budget is in place by the beginning of each fiscal year, which is Oct. 1. Only those positions delivering essential services related to health, safety, and welfare will remain functioning. These include doctors, nurses, police officers, corrections officers, firefighters, and utility crews, among others.

One can't help but look back at the events of the previous weeks. Back when the House was still deliberating on the original budget bill, proposals from some members to address police and Customs issues were struck down. Now the Senate is forcing it on the House, along with other items on their Christmas wish list.

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Special to the *Saipan Tribune*



Haidee V. Eugenio covered politics, immigration, environment, business and other news beats as a reporter for *Saipan Tribune* and other news media in the CNMI for 16 years.

Also earlier this year, Rep. Ralph Yumul (Ind-Saipan), along with four other lawmakers, introduced a bill to appropriate \$4.2 million in lapsed funds from a business unit referred to as the alien deportation fund, to help the hospital pay its utility bills.

That alien deportation fund was meant to assist in the investigation, apprehension, detention and deportation of illegal aliens, but was never heard from for years, even after the federal government took over local immigration. Yumul described it as a "slush fund" for different administrations. The bill won't see the light of day.

No one even said a word about the government not appropriating—for the third year in a row—a \$200,000 annual lease payment on the now ghost town called La Fiesta. Instead of a \$200,000 appropriation, it's a \$1 appropriation so that reprogramming money would be easy just in case there's leftover government money.

In just a few years, what started out as a \$200,000 unpaid obligation becomes \$1 million. Yet there are investors looking for locations to develop and they seem to skip the government's La Fiesta.

Jamaican Grill on Saipan

On a much lighter note, Jamaican Grill president and co-owner Frank Kenney said they have been looking at opening a branch on Saipan. Jamaican Grill, which has taken unique island flavors from Jamaica, Guam, and the Philippines and advertises itself as "Serious Food," now has three branches in Guam—in Tamuning, the Chamorro Village in Hagatna, and in Dededo.

What does it mean to be poor in America?

According to the Census Bureau's new annual poverty report, 46.7 million Americans lived in poverty in 2014. This finding is surprising since government spent more than \$1 trillion in 2014 on cash, food, housing, medical care, and targeted social services for poor and low income Americans. (That figure does not include Social Security or Medicare.)

More than 100 million people, or one third of the total population, received benefits from at least one anti-poverty program, at an average cost of \$9,000 per recipient. If converted into cash, this spending is five times the amount needed to lift everyone's income above poverty.

How can government spend that much money and still have more than 45 million people mired in poverty? The answer is: It can't. The problem lies in the way the government measures poverty. The Census Bureau defines a household as poor if its "income" falls below specific thresholds. (In 2014 the poverty income threshold for a family of four was \$24,008.)

But in counting "income," Census excludes nearly all welfare benefits. According to Census, food stamps, housing vouchers and refundable tax credit programs (which provide up to \$7,500 per year in cash grants to poor families) are not "income." Of the \$1 trillion government spends on anti-poverty programs, Census counts only about 7 percent as "income" for the purposes of measuring poverty.

It should, thus, be no great surprise that government's own data show the poor actually spend \$2.30 for every \$1.00 of income Census claims they have. In addition, the living standards of the poor (as defined by Census) differ greatly from conventional images. According to the government's own reports, the typical American defined as poor by the Census Bureau has a car, air conditioning and cable or satellite TV. Half of the poor have computers, 43 percent have Internet, and 40 percent have a wide-screen plasma or LCD TV.

Far from being overcrowded, poor Americans have more living space in their home than the average non-poor person in Western Europe. Some 42 percent of all poor households actually own their own homes; on average, this is a well-maintained, three-bedroom house with one-and-a-half baths, a garage, and a porch or patio.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, only 4 percent of poor children were hungry for even a single day in the prior year because the family could not afford food. The average consumption of protein, vitamins and minerals is virtually the same for poor and middle-class children, and in most cases is well above recommended norms. By his own report, the average poor person had sufficient

funds to meet all essential needs and was able to obtain medical care for his family throughout the year whenever needed.

Of course, poor Americans do not live in the lap of luxury. Many of the poor struggle to make ends meet. But they are generally struggling to pay for cable TV, air conditioning and a car, while putting food on the table.

Fortunately, claims of widespread deprivation in the U.S. are inaccurate. But we should not judge the enormous welfare state merely by the volume of free benefits it distributes.

When President Lyndon Johnson launched the War on Poverty in 1964, he sought to decrease welfare dependence and to increase self-sufficiency: the ability of family to support itself above poverty without the need of government handouts. By that measure, the War on Poverty has been dismal failure. While self-sufficiency increased dramatically in the decades before the War on Poverty began, it has been at a standstill for the last 45 years, despite \$24 trillion in anti-poverty spending.

We should reform welfare by resurrecting Johnson's original

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Law vs sexual assault in the first degree

On Sept. 16, 2015, *Saipan Tribune* and *Marianas Variety* published portions of an order issued by Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho of the Superior Court. As quoted in the newspapers, the court's order states that "[t]he Legislature inadvertently removed the safeguard for when a 16 or 17 year old does not consent to have sex with someone who is 18, 19, or 20 years old." The court went on to state that "[t]his case is one of several that the court has seen when a 16 or 17 year [sic] is allegedly raped but the law can not [sic] protect these alleged victims—because there is no law [sic]."

The Office of the Attorney General wishes to state the law of the Commonwealth on this issue. A person is guilty of sexual assault in the first degree if:

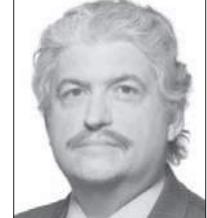
(1) He or she is within the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth; and

(2) He or she

a. Engages in sexual penetration with another person without consent of that person; OR

By ROBERT RECTOR

The Heritage Foundation



Robert Rector is a senior research fellow of domestic policy studies in the DeVos Center for Religion and Civil Society at The Heritage Foundation. The Heritage Foundation.

goal: increased self-sufficiency. The keys to improved self-sufficiency are work and marriage. To promote work, able-bodied recipients should be required to work or prepare for work as a condition of receiving aid.

Welfare programs should also be reformed to encourage, not penalize, marriage. A welfare system reformed on these principles would be good for the poor, the taxpayer and society overall.

b. Attempts to engage in sexual penetration with another person without consent of that person and causes serious bodily injury to that person; OR

c. Engages in sexual penetration with another person who the offender knows is mentally incapable AND who is in the offender's care, by authority of law or in a facility or program required to be licensed in the Commonwealth; OR

d. Engages in sexual penetration with a person who the offender knows is unaware that a sexual act is being committed AND the offender is a healthcare worker AND the offender occurs during the course of professional treatment of the victim.

The defenses to sexual assault in the first degree are codified by 6 CMC § 1305. The ages of the victim and the offender are not relevant to a charge of sexual assault in the first degree.

Any person who commits a sexual assault may be punished by up to 30 years imprisonment and a fine of up to \$50,000. 6 CMC § 1301(b).

The Office of the Attorney General wishes to be clear that any person that commits a sexual assault will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

Edward Manibusan

CNMI Attorney General
Capital Hill, Saipan

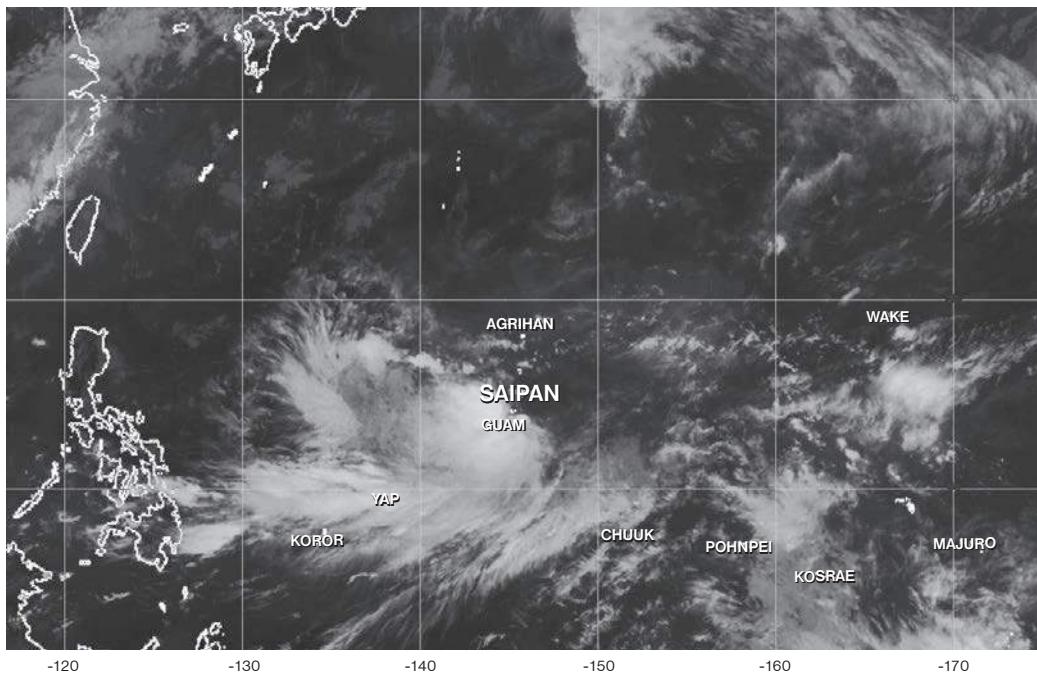
The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. Southwest winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. South winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.

▲ 85°	▼ 77°	▲ 86°	▼ 77°	▲ 86°	▼ 77°	▲ 87°	▼ 77°	▲ 87°	▼ 77°
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Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2015

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough meanders eastward from the central Philippines across 12N130E through a tropical disturbance centered east of Rota near 14N148E, the subject of a tropical cyclone formation alert (TCFA) issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center to a weak circulation centered north of Kwajalein near 12N168E. Numerous showers and scattered thunderstorms are occurring east of the disturbance center over Guam and Rota within 75 miles of a line from 15N144E to 12N146E. For more information on this tropical disturbance, refer to the TCFA under WMO Header WTPN21 PGTW and special weather statement issued by the National Weather Service under WMO header WWMY80 PGUM. Converging west to southwest winds south of the monsoon trough are causing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms near Koror and Yap between 7N and 12N from 130E to 143E, and also near Chuuk within 90 miles of a line from 6N144E to 11N155E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are seen near the trough west of the Mariana Islands within 100 miles of a line from 12N136E to 18N138E, and also near the circulation between 12N and 17N from 166E to 170E. An upper-level trough reaches northward from south of Pohnpei at EQ160E to 10N162E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia		
Guam And Rota	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 86 ▼ 77
Palau	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 87 ▼ 77
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 87 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 86 ▼ 77
Pohnpei	Partly Cloudy	▲ 88 ▼ 77
Kosrae	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 87 ▼ 77
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	▲ 88 ▼ 76

Tides		
Saipan Harbor		
12:32 AM	Today	High Tide: 1.6 Feet
7:58 AM	Today	Low Tide: 0.2 Feet
3:01 PM	Today	High Tide: 1.5 Feet
8:24 PM	Today	Low Tide: 1.1 Feet

Around the Globe		
Auckland	Showers	▲ 59 ▼ 46
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲ 84 ▼ 63
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲ 88 ▼ 79
Honolulu	Showers	▲ 88 ▼ 77
London	Rain	▲ 61 ▼ 46
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 95 ▼ 72
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 88 ▼ 73
Melbourne	Showers	▲ 63 ▼ 45
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 89 ▼ 76
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲ 78 ▼ 58
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲ 81 ▼ 63
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲ 68 ▼ 54
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲ 77 ▼ 63
Rome	Sunny	▲ 82 ▼ 59
Salem	Mostly Sunny	▲ 92 ▼ 69
San Francisco	Sunny	▲ 85 ▼ 59
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲ 84 ▼ 57
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲ 77 ▼ 63
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲ 79 ▼ 60

NMI CRIME STOPPERS		
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:		
■ Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone		
■ *11 on any IT&E cellular phone		
■ Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com		

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website: www.saipantribune.com.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 2, 2015

DEPARTURES			ARRIVALS		
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN		
UA5070 4:15am 5:05am Daily			UA5069 2:45am 3:35am Daily		
UA5068 8:00am 8:50am 3			UA5071 6:40am 7:30am 3		
UA5068 8:40am 9:30am 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7			UA5071 7:15am 8:05am 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7		
UA5039 2:20pm 4:00pm 6, 7 via Rota			UA5039 1:00pm 1:50pm 6, 7		
UA5078 3:10pm 4:00pm 1, 5			UA5038 1:00pm 2:35pm 2, 4 via Rota		
UA5038 3:10pm 4:00pm 2, 4			UA5077 1:50pm 2:40pm 1, 5		
UA5040 6:55pm 7:45pm 1, 5			UA5041 5:35pm 6:25pm 1, 5		
UA5078 8:35pm 9:25pm 2, 3, 4, 6, 7			UA5077 7:15pm 8:05pm 2, 3, 4, 6, 7		
UA5044 10:40pm 11:30pm 1, 5			UA5043 9:20pm 10:10pm 1, 5		
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)			GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)		
UA5039 2:20pm 2:55pm 6, 7			UA5038 1:00pm 1:35pm 2, 4		
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN		
UA5039 3:25pm 4:00pm 6, 7			UA5038 2:05pm 2:40pm 2, 4		
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)			PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN		
DL287 6:05am 1:05am+1 2, 6 via NRT			DL298 4:30am 2:55pm 3, 7 via NRT		
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN		
DL287 6:05am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 6			DL298 10:25am 2:55pm Daily		
DL297 4:30pm 7:15pm Daily			DL288 8:55pm 1:25am+1 3, 4, 5, 7		
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN		
OZ626 2:20am 6:00am 1			7C3402 8:45am 2:15pm 3, 5, 6		
OZ6063 2:25am 6:00am 3, 4, 6			7C3402 9:30am 3:20pm 1, 2, 4, 7		
OZ626 3:20am 7:00am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			OZ625 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7		
7C3403 4:35am 8:20am 1, 2, 3, 6, 7			OZ6053 7:55pm 1:25am+1 2, 3, 5, 6		
7C3403 5:25am 9:10am 4, 5			OZ625 8:20pm 1:50am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6		
7C3401 3:15pm 7:35pm 3, 5, 6			7C3404 10:10pm 3:40am+1 Daily		
7C3401 4:20pm 8:05pm 1, 2, 4, 7					
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)			BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN		

Temporary water outage today on Capital Hill

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. water customers in the vicinity of Capital Hill will experience a temporary service outage today, Sept. 21, as work continues on the Capital Hill Pressure Improvement and Waterline Project.

The nine-hour water outage is scheduled from 7:30am to 4:30pm, as CUC's contractor, MPC Inc., replaces three gate valves and connects a new pressure reducing valve on the newly installed distribution line in preparation for the wa-

terline upgrade in the area.

The water outage will affect customers along East Isa Dr. from Sarah Market to the Kagman Mobil Station. Customers along Atbut Dr., Ifet Dr., Chungo Pl., Fakpe Pl., Egigi Dr., Fahang Dr., and Pa-

ago Dr. will also be affected but only for approximately three hours.

As a result of the project, customers will experience improved system pressure and a more reliable water system. Because of the scale of the

work to be performed, CUC urges motorists to exercise caution when driving through the construction sites.

For more information about the Capital Hill Pressure Improvement and Waterline Project, contact proj-

ect manager Larry Manacop by calling 664-4282. For more information about our recovery efforts, visit our website www.cucgov.org or contact CUC's Customer Call Center at 664-4CUC (664-4282). (CUC)

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for
C Pacific Corporation

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. "C" Pacific Corporation is proposing to operate a light auto repair shop. This use is classified as "Gas Station Light Repair" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on TR 22912 NEW-R1 in San Antonio along Beach Road. This area is zoned as Village Commercial.

Date: October 05, 2015, Monday

Time: 5:00 pm

**Place: Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd Fl.
Joeten Dandan Comm'l Bldg.**

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments shall be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan no later than 4:30pm, Friday, October 02, 2015 or via email to therese.ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, or US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Saipan Zoning Law of 2013).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for
Castle Project (CNMI), LLC

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Castle Project (CNMI), LLC has proposed to renovate and utilize existing warehouse structures formerly used by Top Fashion Factory for employee quarters. This use is classified as "Institutional Residential" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located in Tanapag on lots 030 B 15 & 030 B 13. It is zoned as Mixed Commercial.

Date: October 05, 2015, Monday

Time: 5:00 pm

**Place: Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd Fl.
Joeten Dandan Comm'l Bldg.**

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments shall be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan no later than 4:30pm, Friday, October 02, 2015 or via email to therese.ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, or US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Saipan Zoning Law of 2013).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for
Pacific Corporation

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Pacific Corporation is proposing to operate an auto/ machinery shop to include general maintenance, repairs, body work, painting, rustproofing, car washing & detailing, lubrication, and muffler shop. This use is classified as "Vehicle Repair, General" and is permitted in this district as a Conditional Use. This proposal will be situated on lot 1865 New-5 along Chalan Pale Arnold, behind Pacific Airconditioning and adjacent to Blue Water Homes. It is zoned as Mixed Commercial.

Date: October 05, 2015, Monday

Time: 5:00 pm

**Place: Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd Fl.
Joeten Dandan Comm'l Bldg.**

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments shall be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan no later than 4:30pm, Friday, October 02, 2015 or via email to therese.ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, or US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950.

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/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp
Website: <http://www.nmhgov.net>



PUBLIC NOTICE FAIR HOUSING SURVEY

This notice is to inform the general public that the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is currently conducting a study concerning fair housing. Known as the "Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice" (AI), the study is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as a condition for receiving Federal housing and community funds.

The goals of the study are to identify whether barriers to fair housing choice exist in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), in the rental and real estate markets and the mortgage lending, insurance, and appraisal industries. Further, the study examines private and public policies and practices that may inadvertently lead to housing discrimination.

This AI process includes soliciting the opinions of persons involved in the housing industry, including renters and homeowners. As such, you are being asked to take part in this survey to provide your opinions and experience regarding fair housing in the CNMI.

Your answers are anonymous and will only be reported in compilation with other responses.

The survey is available online at <https://www.research.net/r/CNMI2015FairHousingSurvey> or you may visit the NMHC website at www.nmhgov.net (please look for menu section titled "NMHC Fair Housing Survey"). If you are unable to access the internet, please come by our office and fill-out the survey.

The surveys are due on or before October 15, 2015.

If you may have any questions regarding the survey please feel free to contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Planner/Environmental Officer at (670) 234-6866 or (670) 234-9447.

NMHC will make necessary arrangements for persons with disabilities. If you should require any special accommodations please contact our office.

We thank you for your participation in assisting our agency in moving forward with our projects.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director

This advertisement is paid with HUD CPD Funds.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Statewide Independent Living Council

"Yes I Can!"
P.O. Box 501521, SAIPAN, MP 96950 | Tel: (670) 322-6548 | Fax: (670) 322-6536
TTY: (670) 322-6449 | E-Mail: nmidir@ovrgov.net



PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910, the State Rehabilitation Council and Statewide Independent Living Council will hold their FY 2015 Joint General Membership Meeting on Thursday, September 24, 2015 at the Pacific Islands Club, Napu Room from 9:00 am - 12:00 p.m. Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Review and Adoption of Agenda
- IV. Review and Adoption of Minutes:
 - A. SRC General Membership Meeting Minutes of July 8, 2015
 - B. SILC General Membership Meeting Minutes of July 23, 2015
- V. Reports
 - A. SRC Chairperson
 - B. QA/QI Committee Chairperson
 - C. Employment & Marketing Committee Chairperson
 - D. Transition & Assistive Technology Committee Chairperson
 - E. Transportation, Housing & Advocacy Committee Chairperson
 - F. SILC Chairperson
 - G. CLI Director
 - H. OVR Director
- VI. Action Items
 - A. Review/Approval of SRC FY 2016 Resource Plan
 - B. Review/Approval of SILC FY 2016 Resource Plan
 - C. Review/Approval of SRC Member Removal
 - D. SRC FY 2016 Election of Officers
 - E. SILC FY 2016 Election of Officers
- VII. Consumer Forum
- VIII. Announcements
- IX. Adjournment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend the meeting but require accommodations such as large print or sign language interpreters, are asked to call Elvira Seman at 322-6548 three days before the meeting.

/s/ PAMELA C. SABLAM
SRC Chairperson

/s/ LYDIA D. IGITOL
SILC Fiscal Officer

This advertisement is paid for with Federal funds made possible by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

Tinian mayor's motion to dismiss lawsuit granted

On Sept. 16, 2015, Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman granted the Tinian Mayor's Office's motion to dismiss the Tinian Casino Gaming and Control Commission's lawsuit against Tinian Mayor Joey P. San Nicolas and Tinian municipal treasurer Charlene M. Lizama, in their individual capacities, finding that the mayor and the municipal treasurer are entitled to the qualified immunity defense.

TCGCC sued the Mayor's Office for refusing to pay executive director Lucy Blanco-Maritita and employees of the TCGCC beyond what was budgeted for under the Tinian

& Aguiguan Municipal Legislative Delegation Budget Act for fiscal year 2015. Blanco-Maritita and TCGCC employees were paid only the salary amount as allocated under the Tinian Budget Act.

The judge stated that "for the limited purpose of ruling on this 12(b)(6) motion and in consideration of its procedural posture, the court finds that the salary increases in question were a constitutionally-protected property interest at this time." However, the judge dismissed TCGCC's complaint, agreeing with the mayor's argument that the constitutionally protected rights were

not "clearly established." The Mayor's Office argued that the Casino Act and Tinian Local Ordinance 18-3 are "two irreconcilable sets of laws" as one allows the commission to set its own salaries and the other prevents the commission from increasing the salaries beyond what is budgeted.

San Nicolas is pleased with the dismissal and notes that contrary to TCGCC's statement that this is a "clear victory for the commission," the only matter that was resolved by the order was the issue of whether he can be held personally liable for following the law.

"This dismissal only answers whether I can be held personally liable for halting payments of salary beyond what is provided for under the Budget Act. It doesn't resolve the question of whether the Gaming Act or the Budget Act is controlling, with respect

to the ability of the commission, without going through the budgeting process, to give raises to employees."

The mayor further points out that the court's finding of a constitutional violation was only for the limited purposes of ruling on the motion to dis-

miss. "In dismissing the commission's claim, the court stated that the commission's right to receive a higher salary was not a 'clearly established' right. How the commission can claim a clear victory is premature and misleading at this point." *(Tinian Mayor's Office)*

ditional mass credit adjustments from Sept. 16 to 30.

■ At this time, we do not have an estimated date as to when services will be restored to the island.

Please stay tuned to media and Docomo Pacific's social media outlets for additional updates. *(Docomo)*

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for

B&K Corporation dba: Mariana Breeze

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. B&K Corporation dba: Mariana Breeze is proposing to process distilled wines and liqueurs for retailing and wholesaling. This use is classified as "Manufacturing & Processing" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is situated on Lot 330R-2, on Beach Road, San Jose, between the Borja Funeral Home and the Kilili Beach park. It is zoned as Village Commercial.

Date: October 05, 2015, Monday

Time: 5:00 pm

**Place: Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd Fl.
Joeten Dandan Comm'l Bldg.**

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments shall be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan no later than 4:30pm, Friday, October 02, 2015 or via email to therese.ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, or US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Saipan Zoning Law of 2013).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for

Capital Saipan Corp. dba: Jungle Tour ATV

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Capital Saipan Corporation dba: Jungle Tour ATV is proposing to operate All Terrain Vehicles (ATV) between Ladder Beach and Obyan Beach areas. This use is classified as "Amusement Outdoor, Intensive" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. The ATVs will be parked on lot 043 L 128 next to Ladder Beach. These areas are zoned as Rural.

Date: October 05, 2015, Monday

Time: 5:00 pm

**Place: Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd Fl.
Joeten Dandan Comm'l Bldg.**

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments shall be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan no later than 4:30pm, Friday, October 02, 2015 or via email to therese.ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, or US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Saipan Zoning Law of 2013).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for

**Imperial Pacific International (CNMI), LLC
Dba: Grand Mariana Casino & Hotel Resort**

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Imperial Pacific International (CNMI), LLC dba: Grand Mariana Casino & Hotel Resort is proposing to amend its previous Conditional Use Permit #2015-0919 to increase the number of rooms, increase the height, and decrease parking spaces. This project is located within the Samoan Housing area, situated between Fiesta Resort and Joeten Hafadai Shopping Center. These lots are zoned as Tourist Resort.

Date: October 05, 2015, Monday

Time: 5:00 pm

**Place: Zoning Board Conference Room, 2nd Fl.
Joeten Dandan Comm'l Bldg.**

The above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the project may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments shall be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan no later than 4:30pm, Friday, October 02, 2015 or via email to therese.ogumoro@zoning.gov.mp, or US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Saipan Zoning Law of 2013).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Board Chairman

DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Caller Box 10007, Gualo Rai Center, Saipan MP 96950
TEL. NO. 664-8300 FAX NO. 664-8315



NOTICE OF APPLICATION September 18, 2015

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS)	07/25/2015	Rule for Western and Central Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species: Purse Seine Fishing Restrictions during Closure Periods	Offshore	Federal Consistency	Approved (08/25/2015)
2. National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS)	07/21/2015	2015 Limit on long line-caught bigeye tuna for U.S. Pacific Territories	Offshore	Federal Consistency	Approved (07/31/2015)
3. Pacific Subsea Saipan	08/09/2015 SPIm-2015-X-061	Drydock (Emergency Permit)	South Seaplane Ramp	Port & Industrial APC	Approved (08/06/2015)*
4. USA Fanther	08/12/2015 SPIm-2015-X-062	Stockpiling and Staging Area	Lower Base	Port & Industrial APC	Approved (08/13/2015)*
5. Saipan Crewboats, Inc.	08/14/2015 SPIm-2015-X-063	Drydock	Lower Base	Port & Industrial APC	Approved (08/25/2015)*
6. Buttonweed Corporation DBA Gold Tour	07/30/2015 SLRm-2015-X-064	Snorkeling Operations	Saipan Lagoon	Lagoon & Reef APC	Approved (09/04/2015)*
7. Department of Lands & Natural Resources	08/28/2015	Repair of Picnic Facilities SSm-2015-x-045(A)	Coral Ocean Point Beach	Shoreline APC	Approved (08/28/2015)*
8. Fiesta Resort	09/02/2015 SMS-90-X-77(A)	Upgrade Storm Drainage	Fiesta Resort	Shoreline APC	Under Review*
9. Bridge Investment Group	09/02/2015 TPIm-2015-X-065	Perimeter Fence	Tinian Harbor	Port & Industrial APC	Approved (09/08/2015)*
10. Palms Resort Saipan	08/20/2015 SMS-85-X-25(A)	Generator Room Renovation	San Roque	Major Siting 2015 Permit Amendment	Approved (09/11/2015)*
11. Palms Resort Saipan	09/14/2015 SMS-85-X-25(A)	Lobby Fountain	San Roque	Major Siting 2015 Permit Amendment	Approved (09/14/2015)*
12. Ironwood Blue Water Homes	09/11/2015 SMS-2014-X-020	Monument Sign	Gualo Rai	Major Siting 2015 Permit Amendment	Under Review*
13. Pacific Castle (CNMI) LLC	08/13/2015 SMS-96-X-376(A)	Building Renovation & Transfer of Ownership	Tanapag	Major Siting 2015 Permit Amendment	Approved (08/20/2015)*
14. Tasi Homes	08/18/2015 SMS-2013-X-013	Sheet Piling	Susupe	Major Siting 2015 Permit Amendment	Approved 09/10/2015)*

Require all permit applications to be published in a local newspaper within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major permits. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 206 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.

Notice of Zoning Board Meeting

The regular meeting of the Zoning Board will be held on Monday, October 05, 2015 at 5:00 PM, Zoning Board Conference Room 2nd floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Bldg. (Tel: 234-9661 • Fax: 234-9666 • e-mail: www.zoning.gov.mp)

A. Preliminary Matters

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of 7/7/15 meeting minutes
5. Public Comments (not related to files for discussion under item B. Public Hearings)

B. Public Hearings

Conditional Use Application #2015-2684: B&K Corporation dba: Mariana Breeze is proposing to process distilled wines and liqueurs for retailing and wholesaling. This use is classified as "Manufacturing & Processing" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is situated on Lot 330R-2, on Beach Road, San Jose, between the Borja Funeral Home and the Kilili Beach park. It is zoned as Village Commercial.

Conditional Use Application #2015-2143: Pacific Corporation is proposing to operate an auto/ machinery shop to include general maintenance, repairs, body work, painting, rustproofing, car washing & detailing, lubrication, and muffler shop. This use is classified as "Vehicle Repair, General" and is permitted in this district as a Conditional Use. This proposal will be situated on lot 1865 NEW-5 along Chalan Pale Arnold, behind Pacific Airconditioning and adjacent to Blue Water Homes. It is zoned as Mixed Commercial.

Conditional Use Application #2015-3075: Capital Saipan Corporation dba: Jungle Tour ATV is proposing to operate All Terrain Vehicles (ATV) between Ladder Beach and Obyan Beach areas. This use is classified as "Amusement Outdoor, Intensive" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. The ATVs will be parked on lot 043 L 128 next to Ladder Beach. These areas are zoned as Rural.

Conditional Use Application #2015-3101: "C" Pacific Corporation is proposing to operate a light auto repair shop. This use is classified as "Gas Station Light Repair" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located on TR 22912 NEW-R1 in San Antonio on Beach Road. This area is zoned as Village Commercial.

Conditional Use Application #2015-3085: Castle Project (CNMI), LLC has proposed to renovate and utilize existing warehouse structures formerly used by Top Fashion Factory for employee quarters. This use is classified as "Institutional Residential" and is permitted in the district as a Conditional Use. This project is located in Tanapag on lots 030 B 15 & 030 B 13. It is zoned as Mixed Commercial.

Conditional Use Application #2015-3086: Imperial Pacific International (CNMI), LLC dba: Grand Mariana Casino & Hotel Resort is proposing to amend its previous Conditional Use Permit #2015-0919 to increase the number of rooms, increase the height, and decrease parking spaces. This project is located within the Samoan Housing area, situated between Fiesta Resort and Joeten Hafadai Shopping Center. These lots are zoned as Tourist Resort.

C. Communications

D. Old Business

E. New Business

F. Executive (Closed) Session

G. Miscellaneous: Other Matters, Announcements, Next Meeting, Adjourn.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact the Zoning Administrator, Therese T. Ogumoro, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Diego C. Blanco, Zoning Board Chairman

MCS Theatre Club kicks off 20th anniversary with auditions

This past week, dozens of eager actors and actresses trooped to Mount Carmel School's room A-201 for auditions for two of the Theatre Club's upcoming productions, the musical *White Christmas* and the tragedy *Last Supper*. Both shows are part of

Woman in toxic relationship will need cousin's support

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



DEAR ABBY: I have a very close cousin (and friend) who is in a toxic relationship with a man who breaks up with her repeatedly, manipulates and abuses her emotionally, and probably cheats. It has made me sad to see her go through the same pattern with him for so many years.

They were supposed to be married soon, but are having the same problems again. She's unsure what steps to take, even though family and friends are advising her against marrying him. I don't support the idea either, but I don't want to create a rift with my cousin.

If the wedding takes place, can I decline to be part of the wedding party? Is there anything I can do to make her "see the light"? It's hard to watch a good person go through this. I know it's her choice, but it's wearing on our relationship as well.

CONCERNED COUSIN IN WYOMING

DEAR COUSIN: Have you been asked to be in the wedding party? If it hasn't happened yet, you may be putting the cart before the horse.

Because you haven't been able to get your cousin to see the light before this, I doubt anything you can say will accomplish it now because love is blind and often deaf. This doesn't mean you shouldn't tell her you think she deserves better than what she's getting, and that it pains you to see her hurt the way she has been. However, at the same time, let her know that whatever she decides, you love and support her and will be there for her, because if he actually marries her—which he may not—she's going to need it.

DEAR ABBY: I recently started a new job, and the past three months have been wonderful! One co-worker in particular has contributed to that. He's a tall, handsome man with a great personality. We get along wonderfully, socialize outside of work, and we flirt ... a lot. We have briefly talked about being friends with benefits, but I'm not sure how I feel about it. I have never been FWB with anyone before, and I am very nervous about the possible downside.

I am very attracted to this co-worker, but I also consider him a great friend who could potentially someday be even more than a friend. I am scared that being FWBs would ruin our friendship and any possible future we may have. Should I accept being an FWB and enjoy it while it lasts, or decline and explain to him why?

FRIENDS WITHOUT BENEFITS IN VIRGINIA

DEAR FRIENDS: If I were you, I'd enjoy the flirtation for as long as it lasts and pass on being his FWB.

While "friends with benefits" may seem enticing, what it really stands for is "sex without commitment or responsibility," and in the majority of instances it leads to — nothing. Couple that with the fact that if you do, and someone else attracts his attention, you will not only have to cope with hurt feelings, but also the embarrassment of still having to work with him. So start thinking with your head, and don't do anything you might later regret.

TO MY JEWISH READERS: Tonight at sundown, Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the Jewish calendar, begins. It's a day of fasting, reflection, prayer and repentance. To all of you, may your fast be an easy one.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Senior and MCS Theatre Club veteran Jonathan Pangelinan, right, leads elementary students in singing *White Christmas* during auditions.

the club's yearlong celebration of its 20th anniversary.

White Christmas is based on the 1954 film starring Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye, Vera Ellen, and Rosemary Clooney, and features the classic holiday song of the same name. At the helm directing *White Christmas* is Theatre Club veteran and senior Jonathan Pangelinan.

"Every year, I love watching Christmas movies, but never did watch this movie. After I did, though, I realized that it was nostalgic and perfect for the season," said Pangelinan. "And I've always wanted to direct and put on a successful play with sold-out shows."

As a veteran of the club who started when he was in 6th grade, Pangelinan is no stranger to the stage, having performed in *Winter's Tale*, *What's Going On*, *Zero to Hero*, *Rapunzel*, *12th Knight*, and, most recently, as Olaf in *Snow Queen*.

When asked why he has stuck with the club for so long, he said, "In Theatre Club, it feels like you're in a family, where everyone gets close by rehearsing for shows or shooting movies."

White Christmas will be shown during the first weekend in December.

Last Supper is an original play that is being written and directed by Theatre Club founder, 1991 AlumKnight, and school president, Galvin Deleon Guerrero. The play will explore different dimensions of suicide as a family gathers together for a Thanksgiving dinner.

"We've staged plays about many social issues in the past, like domestic violence, sexual assault, and substance abuse, but we've never really addressed the issue of suicide," Deleon Guerrero said. "While suicide rates rise and fall in any community, it's always an issue for many people who have considered it or have been af-

fected by it. That's why I feel so strongly about putting on this show."

Drawing from his experience and studies at New York University's film program this past summer, Deleon Guerrero will also shoot *Last Supper* as a film. He noted that "the rehearsal process for the stage version will fuel the performances in the film version, and vice versa,

so it'll be a very cool symbiotic synthesis of sorts."

Last Supper will be shown during the weekend right before Thanksgiving.

In addition to *White Christmas* and *Last Supper*, Mount Carmel School's Theatre Club will commemorate its 20th anniversary with a May 2016 production of Disney's Broadway hit, *The Lion King*. The

show will include a dinner performance that will feature a retrospective program honoring the club's 20 years of stage and film productions. The club is encouraging all Theatre Club AlumKnights to participate in the momentous occasion. For more information about the Theatre Club's 20th anniversary and its shows, call 234-6184. (MCS)

In Loving Memory of
† Michael Miguel Tokyo
 Lovingly known as "MIKE"
 May 08, 1955 - September 15, 2015

In His new life, he now joins his:

Wife:	†Susana Rios Tokyo "Chana Dasu"
Father:	†Manuel Tokyo
Father In Law:	†Francisco Santos Rios
Mother In Law:	†Angelina Borja Peredo
Brothers In Law:	†Jesus I. Tydingco †Lucas Peredo Rios †Christopher P. Villafuerte
Sisters In Law:	†Ketary Tokyo †Beatrice P. Troop
Son In Law:	†Dennis T. Camacho
Grandson:	†Reeve T. Camacho

His Love and Memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Mother: Kintina Tokyo
Children and Families: Lisa and Malo Paulis, Children and Grandchildren
Angelina R. Camacho, (Austin Rios) Children and Grandchildren
Hilda and Gordon Salas, Children and Grandchild
Chuji and Lillian Rios
Julie and Reed Camacho and Son
Christine and Steve Quinata and Children
Dorothy and Jasper Saures, Children and Grandchild
Annie and Joe Indalecio and Children
Melinda and Afzal Hossain and Children

Brothers, Sisters and Spouses: Oran / Marciana and Children
Leonardo and Children
Henry / Nakich and Children
Omyo / Kabala and Children
Mesin / Neony and Children
Manuel / Felisha and Children
Kristina / Wapes and Children
Elisabet / Ichiro and Children

Brothers In Law/ Sisters In Law and Spouses: Annie / Vic Vergara and Children
Rosa Tydingco and Children
Dorothy / Dana Kurtz and Children
Armando / Sarah Villafuerte and Son
Julius / Betsy and Children
Mike Troup and Children

He is additionally survived by numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, relatives and friends.

Nightly Rosary is being prayed at his residence at Tinaktak Drive in Koblerville.

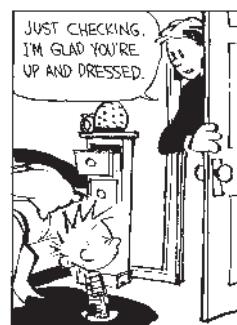
Funeral services will be held on Wednesday, September 23, 2014.
 His remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel at 7:30 am to St. Jude Thaddeus Church.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00am followed by Interment services at Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

Please Join Us in Prayers,
The Family

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson



Garfield®



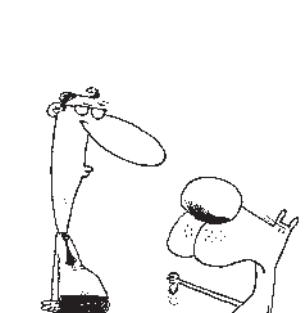
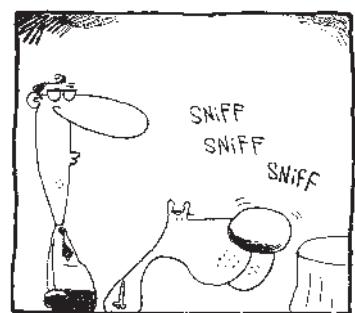
By Jim Davis

Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

The Duplex



By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

- 1 One of the Three Bears
- 5 Sample from a snifter
- 8 First victim
- 12 Lift
- 14 Hayseed
- 15 Christmas wreath adornment
- 16 Press clothes
- 17 Fresh
- 18 Rose protectors
- 20 Photographer Diane
- 23 Jailer's janglers
- 24 Traditional stories
- 25 Regard as forgivable
- 28 Sch. org.
- 29 Aspect
- 30 A Gershwin brother
- 32 Tornado
- 34 Paper holder
- 35 Hawaiian neckwear

DOWN

- 36 Transparent
- 37 Ritz
- 38 Cracker spread
- 40 Winter ailment
- 41 Lotion additive
- 42 Figaro
- 43 Portrayer, e.g.
- 44 Device measuring
- 45 Distance traveled
- 46 Formerly, formerly
- 47 Chess piece
- 48 Device measuring
- 49 Formerly, formerly
- 50 Thanksgiving veggie
- 51 Old portico
- 52 Pro
- 53 Toy
- 54 Energy
- 55 Baba
- 56 Writing implement
- 57 Fifth or Madison
- 58 Pack cargo
- 59 Charged bit
- 60 Sham
- 61 Melodious
- 62 "Ironside" star
- 63 Black, in verse
- 64 Contact, e.g.
- 65 "Bullets," to a poker player
- 66 Jekyll's alter ego
- 67 Pro
- 68 Toy
- 69 Matterhorn, for one
- 70 Mil. training grp.
- 71 Hee-haw
- 72 Zen paradoxes
- 73 Certain church singer
- 74 Cleopatra's river
- 75 A Great Lake
- 76 Entreaty
- 77 Spring mo.
- 78 Customer
- 79 Paratroopers' gear
- 80 Slender
- 81 Superhero costume part
- 82 Winged
- 83 Promises
- 84 Gift tag word
- 85 Oklahoma city
- 86 Mel of baseball
- 87 Ultra-modernist
- 88 Historic time

Solution time: 26 mins.



Friday's answer

9-21

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jason Derulo, 26; Luke Wilson, 44; Faith Hill, 48; Bill Murray, 65.

Happy Birthday: You'll face some emotional situations, but in the end, the outcome and rewards will help to ease any discomfort you encountered along the way. A change in your financial situation looks promising. Focus on personal papers, legalities and health. Protecting your interests and keeping up to date on issues will help position you for a better future. Your numbers are 8, 15, 23, 26, 38, 42, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Work hard, say little and avoid discord. Put more into your performance and the way you present what you can do. Subtle changes will make a difference to the outcome of a situation that revolves around a personal relationship. ☀

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't go overboard when dealing with personal or physical challenges. A realistic attitude will help you reach your goals and get along with others. Talking to an expert will pay off. An unexpected offer will be made. ☀

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Be sensible regarding investments and expenditures. Do as much of the work yourself as possible if you want to make home improvements. Negotiations will be tough and could result in some last-minute changes to your plans. ☀

CANCER (June 21-July 22): A unique situation will develop due to a discussion with someone you look up to or respect. Listen carefully and make a personal decision

based on your gut feelings and your ability to deal with whatever results unfold. ☀

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Use your strength, courage and wherewithal to get things done on time. Your ability to react quickly to whatever situation you face will help you achieve what you set out to do. A personal change will lead to compliments. ☀

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Keep the peace. Do things that will help you gain knowledge and allow you to view your position and options thoroughly before you make a decision that will affect your personal life. Don't overreact regardless of what others do or say. ☀

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Gather information and get involved in projects or events that you deem worthwhile. The people you connect with will change the way you view your personal life. Don't let anyone bully you into settling for less. ☀

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Look for unique, unfamiliar or unusual ways to solve problems, help others and take care of your personal and professional interests. Choosing to take the road less traveled will separate you from anyone who tries to steal your thunder. ☀

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Refuse to let what others do or say daunt you. Put everything you've got into the pursuits that suit you best. A personal change will increase your happiness and boost your standard of living. Romance will lead to a closer bond with someone special. ☀

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Make up your mind based on the research you do on your own. Don't feel the need to make a hasty decision to accommodate someone who is pushy. An unusual opportunity to make a personal gain is apparent. Emotional issues will surface. ☀

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Take care of financial, medical and legal issues. Don't let anyone bribe or push you into something that isn't a good fit for you. Be diplomatic and you will be able to bring about the changes that will make your life better. ☀

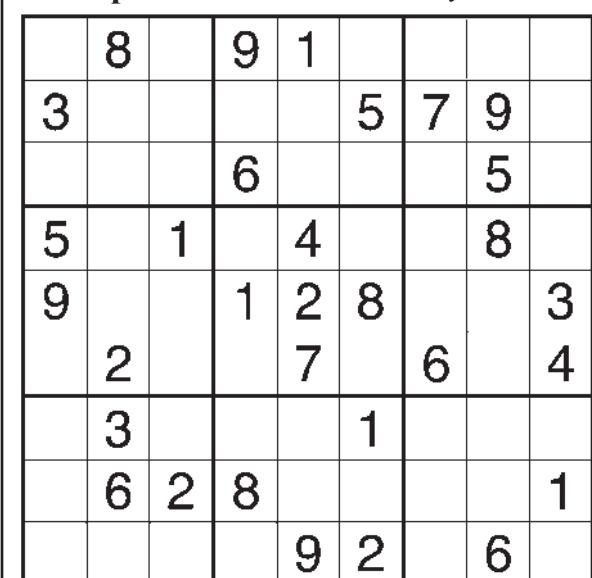
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Expect to face an unusual roadblock. Don't trust anyone to take care of your responsibilities for you. Put your energy into taking action and honoring your promises. Leave nothing unfinished and you'll avoid criticism. Don't complicate your life. ☀

Birthday Baby: You are captivating, unique and spirited. You are aggressive and commanding. Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

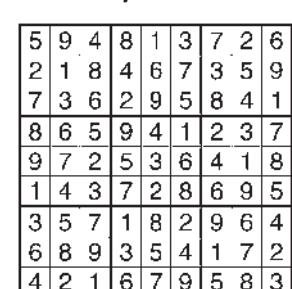
By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer



Difficulty Level ****

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle—horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

BLOCKS

Solution: 5 letters



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Artifact, Background, Bricks, Cheese, Chimney, City, Clay, Clipart, Cold, Column, Data, Design, District, Field, Games, Goal, Graph, Hallow, Heater, Ice, Internet, Iron, Land, Lego, Letter, Piece, Plastic, Programming, Quilt, Safe, Salt, Screen, Shape, Shots, Soap, Solid, Square, Stacking, Steel, Stone, Sugar, Text, Tidy, Tile, Tower, Toy, Unicode, Unit, Vault, Wall, Yeast
Last Friday's Answer: Recycle
To purchase WONDERWORD books, visit www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

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- Maintains customer confidence by keeping loan information confidential.
- Updates job knowledge by participating in educational opportunities; reading professional publications; maintaining personal networks; participating in professional organizations.
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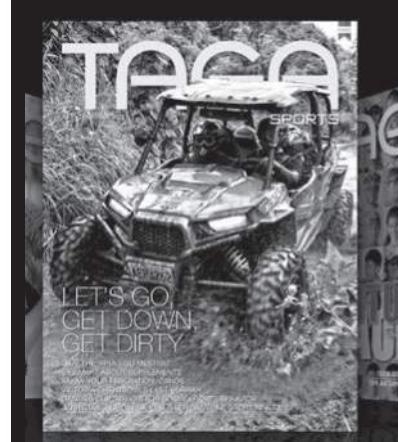
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Cardinals first to clinch playoff berth



CHICAGO (AP)—The St. Louis Cardinals became the first team to clinch a playoff berth this year despite losing 5-4 to the Chicago Cubs on Saturday.

San Francisco's loss to Arizona ensured the Cardinals at least an NL wild card. St. Louis has the best record in the majors at 92-56 and will play in the postseason for the fifth straight year. The Cardinals have made it at least to the NL Championship Series the last four seasons.

Jorge Soler and Kris Bryant hit back-to-back homers for Chicago, and tempers flared for the second consecutive game as the Cubs won their fifth straight to tighten the NL Central race.

Chicago is five games behind first-place St. Louis, which got a two-run homer from Matt Carpenter in the ninth. The Cubs are comfortably in position for a wild card.

Bryant's 25th homer tied the Cubs record for a rookie set by Billy Williams in 1961. Soler went deep for the first time since missing 23 games with a left oblique strain.

Yankees 5, Mets 0

In New York, Carlos Beltran hit a three-run homer off a 100 mph (161 kph) fastball from Noah Syndergaard in the first inning and Michael Pineda pitched his best game in two months as the New York Yankees beat the Mets to rebound from an opening loss in the Subway Series.

Brian McCann added a two-run drive in the sixth, the Yankees' 200th home run this season, to quiet the sellout crowd of 43,630 at Citi Field.

Hoping to reach the postseason for the first time since 2006, the Mets have a seven-game lead in the NL East over Washington.

Red Sox 7, Blue Jays 6

In Toronto, David Ortiz singled home the go-ahead run in a five-run ninth inning and Boston rallied to beat Toronto.

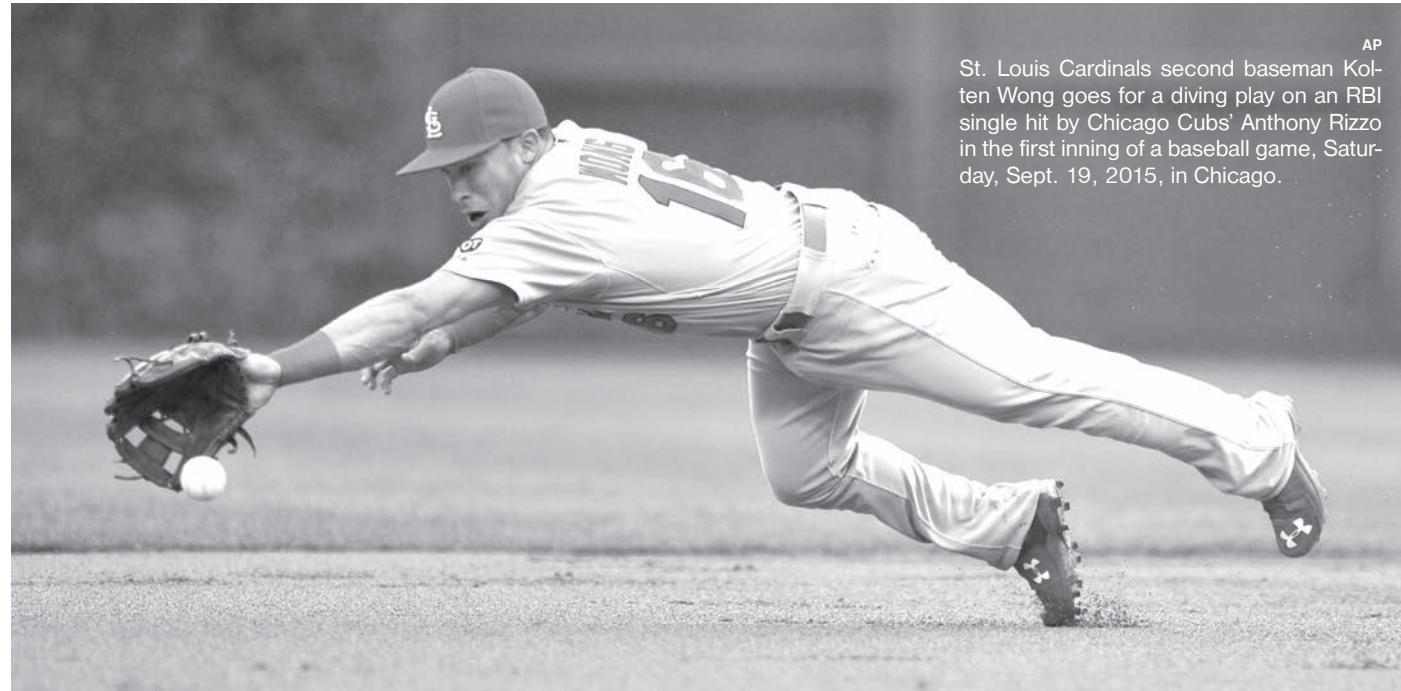
Jackie Bradley Jr. snapped an 0-for-21 slump with a tying double in the seventh, then tied it again with a two-run homer off Roberto Osuna (1-5) in the ninth.

It was the first time in 74 such situations this season that the Blue Jays lost when leading after eight innings.

Xander Bogaerts also homered for the Red Sox. Tommy Layne (2-1) got two outs and Robbie Ross overcame Jose Bautista's two-run homer in the ninth to earn his third save.

Angels 4, Twins 3, 12 innings, 1ST GAME Angels 5, Twins 2, 2ND GAME

In Minneapolis, Albert Pujols



AP
St. Louis Cardinals second baseman Kolten Wong goes for a diving play on an RBI single hit by Chicago Cubs' Anthony Rizzo in the first inning of a baseball game, Saturday, Sept. 19, 2015, in Chicago.

had two hits and two RBI, and Garrett Richards was one out away from his second complete game this season as Los Angeles completed a sweep of a day-night doubleheader.

Mike Trout and Chris Iannetta added solo homers for Los Angeles (76-72), which won its third straight in the series and pulled a game ahead of Minnesota (75-73) in the AL wild-card race.

Richards (14-11) gave up five hits and two runs, including a solo homer to Trevor Plouffe.

Nationals 5, Marlins 2

In Washington, Bryce Harper tied the game with a sacrifice fly, then added insurance with his 41st homer—a two-run shot into the second deck in right field that earned "M-V-P!" chants—as Washington came back to beat Miami.

Harper entered the day leading the NL in homers, batting average and runs. His three RBI raised his total to 95, putting him 17 behind Colorado's Nolan Arenado.

Diamondbacks 6, Giants 0

In San Francisco, Patrick Corbin pitched seven sharp innings and helped his own cause with an RBI single as Arizona blanked San Francisco.

Ender Inciarte had three hits and two RBI, while David Peralta and A.J. Pollock added three hits apiece for Arizona.

The Diamondbacks have won four of their last five against the defending World Series champs, and five straight at AT&T Park.

Corbin (6-4) ended his own skid in San Francisco after going winless in four previous starts at the ballpark.

Orioles 2, Rays 1

In St. Petersburg, Chen Wei-yin pitched seven effective innings and Adam Jones drove in two runs as Baltimore beat Tampa Bay.

Chen (10-7) allowed one run and struck out seven. He

ended his outing by escaping a two-on, no-out jam.

Darren O'Day worked a scoreless eighth before Zach Britton got three outs for his 34th save.

Erasmo Ramirez (10-6) took the loss.

Braves 2, Phillies 1

In Atlanta, Freddie Freeman hit a two-run double in the eighth inning and Atlanta has won consecutive games for the first time since winning three straight in early August.

The Phillies have dropped five straight and 13 of 16

Freeman's opposite-field double off former starter Jerome Williams (4-11) went off the wall in left field when Sweeney appeared to mis-judge the trajectory of the ball, allowing Nick Markakis to score from second and pinch-runner Pedro Ciriaco from first.

White Sox 4, Indians 3

In Cleveland, Carlos Rodon allowed one run while pitching into the eighth inning and Chicago defeated sloppy Cleveland.

Rodon (8-6) went 7 2/3 innings and beat Cleveland for the third time this season. Micah Johnson's fifth-inning single broke a 1-all tie, handing the Indians a costly loss as they attempt to remain in the race for the second AL wild card.

Reds 9, Brewers 7

In Milwaukee, Todd Frazier homered to become just the second Reds player with at least 40 doubles and 35 home runs in a season, helping rally Cincinnati past Milwaukee.

Brewers third baseman Elian Herrera was taken away on a backboard and stretcher after a collision in the eighth inning.

With two on and two outs in the eighth, Skip Schumaker hit a looping fly ball down the left field line. Herrera, left fielder Shane Peterson and shortstop Jean Segura all chased the

ball, but Herrera and Peterson collided, with the ball falling between them.

Astros 10, Athletics 6

In Houston, Evan Gattis hit a three-run homer to put Houston ahead in the seventh inning, and the Astros snapped a five-game losing streak.

Houston leads the race for the second AL wild card by 1 1/2 games over the Los Angeles Angels, who swept a doubleheader at Minnesota. The Astros began the night 2 1/2 games behind first-place Texas in the AL West.

With the Astros trailing by a run in the seventh, Gattis hammered a pitch from reliever Fernando Rodriguez (4-2) to right field, giving Houston the lead for good and sending the

crowd into a frenzy.

Rangers 10, Mariners 1

In Arlington, Cole Hamels struck out 12 over seven innings, and Adrian Beltre had three hits and three RBI to lead Texas.

The Rangers maintained their 2 1/2-game AL West lead over the Houston Astros, who also won.

Hamels (10-8) gave up seven hits, including a second-inning home run by Franklin Gutierrez to center field, and walked none.

Pirates 3, Dodgers 2

In Los Angeles, Aramis Ramirez hit a tiebreaking double in the eighth inning, Andrew McCutchen doubled home two runs, and Pittsburgh ended a four-game skid.

The Pirates climbed within four games of NL Central-leading St. Louis following the Cardinals' 5-4 loss at Chicago. The Pirates remained a game ahead of the Cubs in the race for the first wild card, with both teams comfortably in playoff position.

Flande after he was struck in the left leg by a line drive.

Charlie Blackmon had three hits, including an RBI single, and scored three times, and Nolan Arenado singled twice to drive in two runs for the Rockies, who have won six of nine.

Jedd Gyorko homered and doubled and Justin Upton had an RBI single for San Diego.

Tigers 6, Royals 5

In Detroit, Ian Kinsler homered in the 11th inning to give the win.

Kinsler led off the 11th against Miguel Almonte (0-1) and hit a 1-2 curveball into the Tigers' bullpen for his second walk-off homer against Kansas City this season. He also hit one on August 6.

Tom Gorzelanny (2-0) got the win with two innings of scoreless relief.

The celebration at home was Kinsler's second in three innings, but this one counted.

Pirates 3, Dodgers 2

In Los Angeles, Aramis Ramirez hit a tiebreaking double in the eighth inning, Andrew McCutchen doubled home two runs, and Pittsburgh ended a four-game skid.

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Day runs in place at BMW, but still leads by 6 shots

BMW Championship



to the field a little bit."

That seemed like a distinct possibility midway through the third round.

Day has been hitting his driver so long and straight that he rarely walks through the locker room these days without someone joking he must be playing off the ladies' tees.

Maybe that's why his drives at both Nos. 13 and 15 came as such shocks.

Day had barely launched his tee shot at 13 when he turned away in disgust, then headed back to his golf bag for another ball—even as his first one finally came to rest in the front yard of a home across the road from the course.

"Just a poor swing ... I've fought with that hole in the past," said Day, who quickly gathered himself and crushed his second drive there, then stuck a short iron from 147 yards out to within 5 feet of the pin and made that for a hard-earned bogey.

LAKE FOREST, Ill. (AP)—

Instead of running away from the field one more time, Jason Day spent most of the third round at the BMW Championship running in place.

He was hardly the only player struggling to cope with the suddenly cool, wet and windy conditions at Conway Farms left behind by a wave of overnight storms. After opening rounds of 61 and 63, the Aussie made his first bogey in 20 holes at No. 6, then piled on three more to offset a half-dozen birdies Saturday en route to a 2-under 69.

"Obviously, the most difficult round that we've had this week by far," Day said.

He was at 20-under 193 and had a six-stroke lead. That's one shot better than he had at the start of the round, and the biggest cushion any 54-hole leader has enjoyed on tour this season.

"I think a lot of players really understood how hard it was," Day said. "It was very difficult to get anything going."

Day has won three times—including his first major, the PGA Championship—and is an

aggregate 99 under in tournament play since a narrow miss at the British Open in late July.

While the pack pursuing the FedEx Cup leader got no closer, there was some reshuffling.

Scott Piercy overcame some shaky play early to shoot a 67 and moved up from a tie for fifth into second, and a spot alongside Day in the final pairing Sunday. Brendon Todd, who played in Day's group Saturday, made a triple-bogey 7 at No. 4, bogeyed the next two and never recovered en route to a 76 that dropped him into a tie for 18th.

World No. 1 Rory McIlroy climbed from a tie for ninth to claim fourth place. He will go off in the next-to-last pairing with rookie Daniel Berger, one of the few players who held their ground. Berger shot 70 and was tied with Piercy for second.

"The tournament is in Jason's hands right now," McIlroy said, adding a moment later, "he needs to come back

Davis is Micronesia region VP



Commonwealth Bodybuilding Federation president John Davis, standing seventh from left, joins other members of the South Pacific Bodybuilding Federation Congress held simultaneously with the XV Pacific Games in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, in July. Davis was elected as vice president for Micronesia.

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Commonwealth Bodybuilding Federation president John H. Davis will be Micronesia's voice to the Executive Council of the South Pacific Bodybuilding Federation.

Davis was elected vice president of the Micronesia region during the 2015 SPBBF congress, which was simultaneously held with the XV Pacific Games in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea in July.

Davis represented the CNMI in the congress where the Commonwealth was welcomed as one of two new members of the SPBBF. American Samoa was the other new country affiliated

with the SPBBF.

The CNMI now joins the 22 other member countries under SPBBF, which reaffirmed its affiliation with the World Bodybuilding & Physique Sports Federation.

Davis, early this year, organized CBBF with other bodybuilding enthusiasts and was accepted as a member of the Northern Marianas Sports Association, the CNMI sports' governing body.

"My task is to promote bodybuilding in Micronesia. As soon as the power situation normalizes, I'm going to buckle down to work," Davis told *Saipan Tribune*. "I already have a three-year program in mind and I hope to implement

that in promoting the sport in the region."

Representatives of the member federations that attended the Congress also voted unanimously in establishing a new Executive Council after SPBBF president Joe Daniel, who is also a former Chairman of Judges, resigned.

One of the SPBBF Executive Council's tasks is to help in the grassroots development program of each member federation. Davis added that SPBBF is prioritizing the development and promotion of the sport in the Pacific after the successful staging of bodybuilding competition in the XV Pacific Games.

Meanwhile, former SPBBF

executive vice president Pierre Frogier of New Caledonia was elected to replace Daniel with the former's countryman Roland Chodey, who previously held the chairmanship of the group's technical committee, selected as the new secretary general.

Talaiasi Nau of Tonga, the host of the 2019 Pacific Games, (executive vice president); Papua New Guinea's Cosmas Hannette (vice president for Melanesia); and former EVP Christian Pothier of Tahiti (vice president for Polynesia) are the other SPBBF elected officials. New Zealand's Philip Hope is the vice president for Oceania, representing the entire region in the WPBF.

exercises due to rainy weather condition that morning and replaced it with stretching exercises," team manager Eric Abragan said.

"Players were then required to take notes about the Philippine Team," he added.

Malaysia won the game, 7-0, while the other match featuring Laos and Timor-Leste resulted in a draw, 1-1. With these results, Malaysia kept the top spot and moved closer to the qualifying slot to next year's competition. Malaysia, which has a 3-0-0 win-draw-loss record, was scheduled to face Laos (2-1-0), in the second game last night. A Laos upset would give the host the Group G qualifying berth.

In related news, bulk of the CNMI U19 National Team leaves Saipan for Thailand this morning.

The squad will make a stop in Chonburi for a five-day training camp before proceeding to Bangkok to compete in the AFC U19 Championship Bahrain 2016 Qualifiers that will run from Sept. 28 to Oct. 6.

The CNMI U19 National Team is composed of goalkeepers Joshua Galarion and Aminzo, midfielders Joel Fruit, Hunter Jewell, Scott Kim, Yoshi Mafnas, Greg Sablan, Ter-

rence Thosert-Belcher, and Aniana, defenders Tekopua, Ermianio, Hinson, Kennedy Izuka, Won Young Kim, John Diego Masga, and Ryan Relucio, and forwards Shankweiller, Sean Perez, and Ryu Tanizawa. Russell Zapanta is the team manager, while NMIFA treasurer Elna Curate is the

CNMI delegation head. Some members of the squad who are still in Laos will fly straight to Thailand to join the rest of the team in the training camp.

In Bangkok, the Commonwealth bets will play Chinese-Taipei, Singapore, South Korea, and the host country for the Group H qualifier.

board with 41 points. Kim Jin Woo scored 41.4 points in the elimination round and was joined by Morita (33.3), Tashi (32.9), and Tokado (31.4) in the finals.

Kim Jae Won was the top rider in the men's Open bodyboard, winning a close final round against Sai Bangot and Kim Jin Woo. Kim Jae Won earned 37.1 points to narrowly beat Bangot, who scored 36.9. Kim Jin Woo was a close third with 36.8.

The two-day event attracted riders from Japan, Korea, the Philippines, Russia, and the United States.

IT&E, Bridge Capital, LLC, PIC Saipan, Pacific Trading Co., Jeju Airlines, Coral Ocean Point Golf Resort, Triple J Five Star Wholesale Foods, Swirls, Loco Boutique, Waveloch, Japan Flowrider Association, and Boarderline were the event sponsors.

JAPANESE

From Page 20

Nakamura (23.8) were the other competitors in the women's Masters bodyboard.

Okuwari made it two in a row as she again secured the top seed in the women's Open bodyboard in another five-cornered fight, as Su Young Jang and Do Young Jang were no shows.

Okuwari scored 38.5 points in the seeding round and 37.7 in the finals to complete her title sweep. Go Eun Woo was second with 31.2 points, while Nakamura (24.3) and Ota (23.7) rounded up the Final Four female riders.

Meanwhile, South Koreans Kim Jin Woo and Kim Jae Won split the men's Masters and Open bodyboard titles.

Kim Jin Woo defeated Japan's Kenji Tokado, Yoshida Tadashi, and Koichi Morita to rule the men's Masters body-

Cavs Irving mum on when he'll return



MIAMI (AP)—If Kyrie Irving knows when he'll be back on the floor with the Cleveland Cavaliers, he's not telling.

The All-Star guard will only divulge this much: He's getting closer.

Irving spoke Thursday about his ongoing recovery from the knee injury that required surgery and kept him from all but one game of last season's NBA Finals, when the Cavaliers fell to Golden State in six games. The Cavaliers - like all NBA teams - open training camp later this month, and one of the biggest issues facing the reigning Eastern Conference champions revolves around when their point guard will be ready to play.

"I'm feeling great," Irving said from Miami, where he has been working out. "I'm taking my time with it. Obviously, it was a terrible injury but thank God I had the summer to start rehabbing and I'm definitely progressing in the right way. Whatever my timeline is, it'll be for the betterment of the team and for us to also compete for a world championship

at the end of the season."

Irving hasn't revealed exactly what he's physically able to do right now.

"We're going to keep most of the things in house as far as what's going on," he said.

Irving averaged 21.7 points and 5.2 assists for Cleveland last season, his first year playing alongside LeBron James. During the playoffs Cleveland was 10-3 with Irving on the floor, 4-3 when he was sidelined.

He had some impressive efforts last season, including a 55-point game against Portland in January and a 57-point night against San Antonio in March. Including the post-season—which he appeared in for the first time—the Cavaliers went 28-4 in games where Irving shot better than 50 percent.

"As long as we're together in that locker room and our coaching staff and everybody is on the same page, we'll be fine," Irving said. "All the expectations people put on us last year, we were aware of it. But for us, it was about us being together when it really mattered and showing people that this was a team to be reckoned with."

WAG

From Page 20

throws after drawing a foul on Marlon Ibanez with only four seconds left in their 24-second shot clock.

After Mina's pair of free throws hit nothing but the net, Hard Kulangot sued for time to set up a possible game-winning basket with 26 seconds left in the game. Hard Kulangot crossed midcourt safely when the game resumed, but later lost possession when Ibanez's bounced pass to J.R. Barrios from the right sideline hit the latter's foot. Barrios chased the ball, which he picked up at the backcourt, forcing the referee to charge the former with a back-to-back violation and give possession to Wag Kang Pabebe.

There was a lull after that crucial call, as Hard Kulangot players argued Mina partially touched the ball when Ibanez made the kick out before the leather hit Barrios. However, the official stood by his call and awarded possession to Wag Kang Pabebe with 15 seconds remaining on the clock.

With the time not on its side, Hard Kulangot gave up another foul on Mina, who went perfect anew from the 15-foot line to hand Wag Kang Pabebe a 3-point cushion. Wag Kang Pabebe hung on to the lead, as Hard Kulangot failed to produce in the ensuing play with Marlon

De Dios' daredevil drive missing the target and players were still battling for the rebound when the time expired.

Earlier under the one-minute mark of the match, De Dios

split his charities to give Hard Kulangot a precarious lead, 55-54. Before De Dios' free throw, Brendon Talania countered Barrios's triple to force a deadlock, 54-all.

The important trey allowed Talania to finish the game in double figures (13 points). He recorded all of them in the second half to anchor Wag Kang Pabebe's comeback bid. Wag Kang Pabebe was down as much as 7 points in the second half before Talania reported for the match past the halfway mark of the final frame. He announced his entry to the game with a triple and followed it up later with back-to-back layups before scoring 6 straight points in the final three minutes of the match, including the game-tying triple.

Joseph Woods helped Wag Kang Pabebe's cause, too, as he stepped up in absence of Talania in the first half, logging 8 points in that period and adding 6 more in the second.

Meanwhile, last Saturday's second game between Purple Rain and Makalaro Lang along with the Friday pairing of Eh Di Wow and Pasion De Amor were suspended due to darkness and will resume on a later date. Partial results of these games will be reported in *Saipan Tribune's* Tuesday issue.

Wag Kang Pabebe 58 – C. Devero 15, Woodson 14, Talania 13, J. Devero 6, Macoto 6, Mina 4.

Hard Kulangot 55 – Barrios 18, Ibanez 14, De Dios 9, Lontoc 6, Cultura 4, Garcia 3, Pollisco 2.

Scoring by halves: 25-24, 58-55.



Cardinals
first to clinch
playoff berth

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Saipan Tribune Sports



Davis is Micronesia
region VP

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20 MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2015

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

CNMI scores in last game in Laos



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CNMI U16 National Team players and officials pose for a group photo after the opening ceremony of the AFC U16 Championship India 2016 Qualifiers last week at the National Sports Complex Stadium in Vientiane, Laos.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI U16 National Team hit the board in its last game in the AFC U16 Championship India 2016 Qualifiers yesterday at the National Sports Complex Stadium in Vientiane, Laos.

Midfielders Anthony Fruit and Sunjoon Tenorio drilled one goal apiece in the CNMI's 2-9 loss to the Philippines in the first match in the last



AFC
U-16
CHAMPIONSHIP

day of the Group G qualifier. Fruit lit up the board for the CNMI at the one minute extra time in the first half, ending the Commonwealth's long silence against the Philippine crew, which got early back-to-back goals en route to building a 4-0 advantage. The

PHL bets had its first two goals in the eighth and 11th minute, courtesy of midfielders Kier John Napolitano and Fidel Victor Tacardon. The next two were recorded in the 18th and 41st with forward Mariano Suba Jr. converting the third one and another midfielder, Kyle Ronquillo, tallying the fourth.

The CNMI then avoided a first-half shutout, thanks to Fruit's late goal, while Tenorio's shot just two minutes

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Japanese sweeps Point Break events



MACKENZIE RAE PEREZ
Kenji Tokado of Japan performs in the men's Masters bodyboard event of last weekend's 2015 Point Break Open held at the Pacific Islands Club's flowrider facility in San Antonio. Tokado finished second to Kim Jin Woo.

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Japan's Yasuko Okuwaki made sure she would have a worthwhile trip to Saipan as she swept her events in the 2015 Point Break Open held over the weekend at the Pacific Islands Club's flowrider facility in San Antonio.

Okuwaki ruled the women's Masters and Open bodyboard divisions to lead nine other participants that topped their respective events.

Okuwaki wowed the judges early in the seeding round of the women's Masters bodyboard where she earned 40.7 points to clinch a finals berth. The seeding format started last year, giving the judges a preview of what to look forward to in the final day of competitions in the Masters and Open bodyboard events.

Sophia Park and Nami Ota joined Okuwaki in the finals after collecting 35.3 and 25.1 points, respectively in two rides they performed in the seeding round. Onuki Sayuri (24) and Yasuko

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Wag Kang Pabebe
back to top spot

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Wag Kang Pabebe joined Makalaro Lang anew to the top spot of the team standings in the 2015 Blue Haus/IT&E Inter-Color Basketball League after slipping past Hard Kulangot, 58-55, last Saturday at the Navy Hill court.

Wag Kang Pabebe matched Makalaro Lang's 4-1 record to lead the nine-team field, while Hard Kulangot had its three-game winning streak snapped (3-2) and it dropped to third place behind Oh My J (3-1), pending results of yesterday's pair of games.

Christian Devero top-scored for Wag Kang Pabebe with his 15 points, but it was Oscar Mina Jr.'s 4 markers that lifted the team to the 3-point win. Mina knocked in all his points from the foul line with the first two charities giving Wag Kang Pabebe a shaky 56-55 lead. He canned the pressure-packed free

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Hard Kulangot's Marlon De Dios, right, and Wag Kang Pabebe's Joseph Woodson battle for the rebound during the second half of their game in the Blue Haus-IT&E caging last Saturday at the Navy Hill court.